

## EC settles dispute with Greece

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) Saturday agreed a substantial programme of extra aid to Greece, resolving a dispute which threatened to sabotage a hard-fought agreement bringing Spain and Portugal into the group, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said. Community leaders continued negotiations for several hours after the expected end of their two-day summit here before overcoming the dispute with Greece, which had threatened to sabotage a deal on Iberian entry agreed only two days ago. Emerging from the meeting, Dr. Kohl expressed his happiness that agreement had been reached at last. Dutch officials said Greece would get an additional \$1.5 billion of aid for its poor rural regions over seven years in exchange for lifting its threat of a veto on enlargement.

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## Israeli soldier killed in attack

TEL AVIV (AP) — One Israeli soldier was killed and two wounded in two attacks on Israeli forces in South Lebanon on Saturday, the Israeli army announced. The army said one soldier was killed and another wounded in an exchange of fire between an Israeli unit and resistance men west of the village of Doueir, about eight kilometres north of the Israeli "front line" on the Litani River. Two resistance men were also killed in the firefight, it said. It said searches following the attack revealed two roadside bombs and a rocket launcher. The attack brought the number of Israelis killed in Lebanon since the June 1982 invasion to 642. Another soldier was wounded when a roadside bomb exploded by his unit in the Tyre region, the command said.

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## Moscow: MX will be countered

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union's top expert on American affairs said Saturday the Geneva arms talks were being hindered by uncertainty about U.S. intentions and that Moscow would be forced to develop a counterpart to the MX missile. Speaking on the television current affairs programme "Studio 9", Georgy Arbatov, head of the Moscow Institute of U.S. and Canadian Studies, said the American MX programme would force the Soviet Union to build up arms, not reduce them.

## U.S., Soviets to discuss shooting

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and the Soviet Union Saturday agreed to hold talks aimed at preventing confrontations between military observers in Germany such as the one that led to the death of a U.S. army major on Sunday. The agreement was announced by Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin after a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz at the State Department to discuss the shooting of U.S. Major Arthur Nicholson in East Germany by a Soviet guard. Mr. Dobrynin said, the talks would be conducted between the superpower military commanders in Europe.

## Cypriot political crisis rekindled

NICOSIA (AP) — The simmering Cyprus political crisis flared up again Saturday with the rejection by President Spyros Kyprianou of an overnight parliamentary demand for his resignation. Mr. Kyprianou said in a statement the demand was unconstitutional, warning that its consequences "are unforeseeable and incalculable." The overnight parliamentary vote called on Mr. Kyprianou to either conform to an earlier house resolution taken last month, or to resign within 45 days.

## Last Suspect wins Grand National

LIVERPOOL (R) — Last Suspect revived memories of the Great Arkle when he sprang a 50-1 surprise to win the Grand National Steeplechase at Aintree Saturday. But it was only at the insistence of his Welsh jockey Hwyl Davies that trainer Tim Forster and owner Anne, Duchess of Westminster, let the horse run.

## U.S. senators promise more aid to Israel

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two key members of the U.S. Senate appropriations Committee have held out promise to Jewish leaders of further United States aid to help Israel out of its economic problems, aides said Friday. Republican Senator Robert Kasten, chairman of the foreign operations subcommittee, told major donors to the United Jewish appeal here on Thursday that he expected President Ronald Reagan would ask Congress for \$1.5 billion in extra aid to Israel for this year and next.

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# Jordan goes on summer time after a break of seven years

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It would be a wise move to check your watches and adjust your time one hour forward before going to sleep today if you do not want to be caught unawares when the rest of the country adopts summer time as of midnight Sunday.

The move to follow summer time from April 1 to Sept. 30 this year was decided by the cabinet as part of efforts aimed at helping the national "save electricity" campaign.

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources, which launched the campaign last year, has

already put out advertisements and used the mass media to advise residents in Jordan about the change to summer time.

"We hope to save on average of one lighting hour per day as a result of the new measure," said Rashad Abu Ras, director of the Industrial Energy Department at the ministry. He explained that "one lighting hour per day" would mean a saving of 20 per cent of power consumption for lighting in the domestic sector. According to estimates drawn up by the ministry, most consumers need five hours of lighting every day — 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. — and as the change to summer time comes into

force, "people would need to switch on their light only at 7 p.m. — as there would be enough sunlight — and assuming that they need four hours of lighting, we would save one lighting hour at every home," Mr. Abu Ras said.

The decision to adopt summer time, which comes after a break of seven years, was taken as part of government efforts to curb Jordan's rising bills for importing oil to generate power. A 20 per cent saving on power used for lighting in the domestic sector will have the equivalent impact on the country's fuel imports.

"The measure is expected to mainly affect the consumption of

power for domestic lighting," Mr. Abu Ras said. "We do not expect any impact on the industrial sector as most factories and plants follow a set number of working hours regardless of the change in time," he added.

Alla, the Royal Jordanian Airline, has rescheduled its flight timings one hour ahead for departures as well as arrivals, thereby maintaining its links with Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). For example, the Alla flight to Frankfurt and Copenhagen every Saturday at 15.30 hours local time will take off at 16.30 hours local time as of Monday.

The flight rescheduling, in effect, was aimed at avoiding any disruption in travel schedules and flight connections for passengers flying Alla, or using the Queen Alla International Airport as a transit point.

Radio Jordan and Jordan Television have adjusted their transmission timings to suit the new time and there will not be any effective changes in the transmission hours.

Otherwise, how would the change to summer time affect the daily life in Jordan? Not much, most people replied when asked by the Jordan Times.

"I do not think the change will have any effect on people's lives or even businesses," said a prominent importer, who preferred anonymity. "However, it may have its impact on people doing business with the Far East."

He explained that the one-hour difference would limit the number of hours available to traders in Amman who deal with suppliers in the Far East, for instance Tokyo.

"Of course, the traders could open their businesses one hour earlier than usual from Monday, but what about their employees? Will they report to work early?" Banking deals or exchange trans-

actions would not be affected by the change, according to a senior bank official. "Currency rates are quoted according to opening figures in London and have nothing to do with Far Eastern exchange markets, and since most European countries also adopt summer time, the hours that are available to us remain the same."

The opinion of a foreign resident in Amman was a little different. "I feel it will be a good turn," she said. "In places like Amman, where there are limited facilities for nightlife and entertainment, I feel relieved that I will have more hours of daylight," she said.

# Protests, rallies mark Land Day

West Bank protesters clash with Israelis, Amman rallies pledge support for struggle

By Salameh B. Ne'matt,  
Sa'ad G. Hattar and Olga Mikhail

AMMAN — Arab citizens living under the Israeli occupation in Palestine and the West Bank Saturday clashed with Israeli forces after announcing a general strike to mark the ninth anniversary of "Land Day" while senior Jordanian and Palestinian figures organised public rallies in Amman to mark the occasion.

Reports from the occupied West Bank said Arab citizens announced a general strike which paralysed Jerusalem in solidarity with Arab citizens of Galilee, Muthalath and Naqab in occupied Palestine. A report carried by the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said Arab citizens attacked and stoned the headquarters of the Bethlehem military governor while Israeli forces opened machinegun fire to intimidate the demonstrators. The agency did not report casualties but said several Arab citizens were arrested.

It said that despite preemptive Israeli measures and beforehand arrests of Arab activists, demonstrators stoned Israeli military vehicles in Beit Sahour in the occupied West Bank. Israeli forces were trying to disperse demonstrators by force, Petra said.

In Nablus, classes at the Najah University and other schools in the city were boycotted by students while shops shut their doors in protest, Petra said.

Petra said. The Israeli police commissioner of occupied Jerusalem had issued strict orders to crack down on Arab citizens demonstrating against the occupation, Petra reported.

In Ramallah, Arab citizens set fire to tyres and organised demonstrations through the streets of the city and chanted anti-Israeli slogans condemning the occupation and its arbitrary measures against Arabs. Clashes between Arab citizens and Israeli forces were also reported in many areas in the occupied West Bank in which Israeli forces used machinegun fire to disperse demonstrators. Petra also reported mass arrests.

Other reports said Arab citizens in occupied Palestine Saturday started their celebrations by organising a massive march through the streets of Taybeh in the Muthalath area towards the Martyr's Memorial where they laid wreaths to commemorate the Arab martyrs who were shot by Israeli forces in 1976. The march then proceeded to the town's centre where

# 14 reportedly killed in Israeli raids on villages Palestinian families forced to flee as Falangists attack camps

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — Heavy fighting erupted anew Saturday with Falangist men attacking Palestinian refugee camps in the outskirts of Sidon and families from the camps fleeing the camps towards the port city. About 40 people were reportedly killed in the attacks which were resisted by a handful of Palestinian fighters and Lebanese militiamen sympathetic to their cause.

Simultaneous with the Falangist assault, Israeli soldiers stormed a South Lebanese village outside their occupation zone in South Lebanon. According to reports, the Israelis also entered two other villages and a total of 14 people were killed and 40 wounded in the Israeli operations, aimed at stemming resistance to the 34-month-old Israeli occupation.

The battles between militiamen of the Falangist "Lebanese Forces" just to the east of Sidon and Palestinian and Lebanese fighters in refugee camps on the city's outskirts followed an overnight lull brought on by a ceasefire agreement.

Sidon's Mayor Ahmad Kalash speaking with reporters at the Hammoud hospital, the city's largest facility — put the casualty toll at more than 40 people dead and 100 wounded on Saturday alone in what he described as a "plot to create segregation, a big plot."

"It is a massacre what has taken place today," he said. "We have to ask why the Christian Lebanese Forces (militia) are shelling civilians with heavy artillery."

Mortars and artillery shells could be heard exploding at a rate of four a minute in the refugee camp of 'Ain Al Hilweh — hundreds of people fled from the area and the nearby Mich Mish refugee

camp. Smoke could be seen rising from a Lebanese army camp on Mar Elias hill that was being shelled east of the city. Sidon's streets were virtually deserted.

At the hospital, officials said 11 people had been killed in the 'Ain Al Hilweh camp Saturday morning. Several, including a woman and child, apparently died when a mortar hit a vegetable stand in the camp.

They added that 15 other bodies were brought to the hospital's morgue early in the afternoon and that a total of 80 people, including a Lebanese army soldier injured in the Mar Elias shelling, had been treated for wounds.

The latest casualties brought the toll from the two days of fighting to 32 killed and more than 133 wounded, according to hospital counts.

Mr. Kalash said the higher death figure he cited included bodies brought to other hospitals that it was impossible for reporters to reach.

Mr. Kalash said the Lebanese army units on the front lines were coming under "heavy shelling from the upper hills" in Falangist-controlled areas.

Cans and bottles rained through near-deserted side streets under gunfire to escape battles around the 'Ain Al Hilweh camp.

The vehicles, jammed with people and household goods, careered from the camp whenever the shooting eased, but sniper fire from Falangist fighters positioned nearby cracked regularly as the vehicles sped off.

of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) until Israel's 1982 invasion.

Residents said mortar shells slammed into an outdoor 'Ain Al Hilweh vegetable market Saturday morning, killing or wounding more than 20 people.

As the fighting raged near Sidon, a 60-vehicle Israeli force stormed the villages of Kfar Fila, Jbaa and 'Ain Bon Souwar on the edge of Israel's occupation zone in South Lebanon, killing 14 people and wounding 40, sources quoted by Reuters said.

The sources said the Israeli assault began an hour after several Israeli soldiers were injured by a roadside bomb that hit a convoy near Jbaa, 15 kilometres southeast of Sidon.

The Israeli force later withdrew from the three villages, after damaging a number of houses, they added.

A second Israeli force entered the village of Arab Salim and Lebanese security sources said Israeli troops were moving across their occupation lines to Houmine Al Tahta and Anqoun.

On March 21 Israeli forces killed 23 people when they moved across their lines to attack villages including Houmine Al Tahta, and 37 were killed in a similar assault on the village of Zariya on March 11.

The raids are intended to stop persistent attacks on the occupation force, but they seem to have had little effect. A security source in South Lebanon, who asked not to be named, told the AP Israeli forces in the occupation zone came under attack at least five times between 5 p.m. (1500



Prominent Jordanian and Palestinian figures Saturday attend a popular meeting held at Amman's Palace of Culture to mark "Land Day" (above). Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Abdul Hamid Saeh and Jordanian Women's Federation President Haifa Al Bashir address the gathering (Petra photo)



## Greek premier condemns Alia attack

AMMAN (Petra) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu has strongly condemned the Feb. 21 attack on Alla, the Royal Jordanian Airline, office in Athens.

In a reply to a message sent to him by Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat, Mr. Papandreu said "such terrorist attacks endanger people's lives and it's everyone's duty to protect people against such acts."

Mr. Obaidat had sent messages to the prime ministers of Greece and Italy immediately after three simultaneous attacks were carried out against Alla offices in Athens, Rome and Nicosia, Cyprus.

Five people were injured — three in Athens and two in Rome — in the attacks.

In his messages to Mr. Papandreu and Italian Premier Bettino Craxi, Mr. Obaidat urged them to adopt all necessary measures to provide complete protection to Jordanian interests against such terrorist attacks.

# Iran, Iraq renew attacks amid new momentum in peace efforts

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran and Iraq renewed military attacks on each other Saturday as peace missions from the United Nations, India and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) sought ways to end the fighting.

Iraqi warplanes hit four border villages in western Iran and what appeared to be a military base on the southern warfront Saturday, after attacking Tehran Friday night, Iraqi military spokesmen said. Tehran Radio said three people were wounded in Tehran.

An Iraqi military spokesman said the central Iranian border towns of Sar-e-Pol Zahab and Gilan-e-Garb, in addition to the Iranian army's "Hamid Camp" were raided at 9:30 a.m. (0630 GMT).

Twelve hours earlier, he said, Iraqi jet fighters attacked Tehran, the 11th raid on the Iranian capital in 16 days.

The official Iranian Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) later confirmed the raids on Sar-e-Pol Zahab and Gilan-e-Garb. It said that Iranian jet fighters retaliated by attacking "economic

installations and military targets" in the central Iraqi border town of Jassan, 200 kilometres southeast of Baghdad.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted official sources as saying that a lone Iranian warplane raided Jassan's elementary school.

"The barbaric raid resulted in the demolishing of the school and the wounding of 70 pupils, some of them seriously," the agency quoted the same source as saying.

The attacks came as U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived in Riyadh, two senior envoys of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi arrived in Tehran from Baghdad and an OIC peace mission flew to Damascus — all seeking ways to end the fighting.

Iran said Mr. Perez de Cuellar was welcome to go to Tehran but made clear it was interested only in discussing a partial ceasefire and not a comprehensive peace in the war.

IRNA quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying that after the escalating attacks on civilian targets and oil tankers and

with Iraq's alleged use of chemical weapons, it was "more necessary than ever" for the secretary-general to continue his efforts to restore a partial ceasefire agreement of last June which barred attacks on towns.

Iraq has said it will continue bombing Iranian cities until Iran agrees to peace talks while Iran has sought a return to last June's agreement banning attacks on civilian targets but rejecting the idea of a ceasefire on the battlefield.

The Indian peace mission, led by Minister of State for External Affairs Kurshed Alam Khan, was in Tehran Saturday after a similar visit to Baghdad. India is current chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Gambian President Dawada Jawara, who heads an OIC committee trying to end the Gulf war, left Jeddah Saturday for talks in Syria, which supports Tehran in the conflict, the Saudi Press Agency said.

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# U.S. says it will welcome talks with Syria

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A senior U.S. official due to tour the Middle East next month would welcome a chance to have talks with Syrian officials, the Reagan administration said Friday.

State Department spokesman Edward Djerejian appeared to be seeking an invitation for Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy to visit Damascus, where President Hafez Al Assad's policies have long been in sharp conflict with those of Washington.

Mr. Murphy is a former U.S. ambassador to Syria and is said to be highly respected in Damascus. Announcing Mr. Murphy's trip, Secretary of State George Shultz said two weeks ago that Mr. Murphy would be going to Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and

other countries.

Djerejian said Friday: "Assistant Secretary Murphy would welcome another opportunity to consult with Syrian officials."

He said no itinerary had been set for Mr. Murphy's trip.

"We have maintained a high level dialogue with Syria in recent years on a variety of subjects, including Lebanon and the peace process," the deputy spokesman said. "We think that this is important and we value these exchanges. And we hope to continue and intensify this dialogue in the hope that both of us can better understand the other's policies, and objectives in the region."

"While there are obvious differences between our position on the peace process and that held by

Syria, the United States is committed to supporting movement toward peace between Israel and all of its Arab neighbours," he said. "Our consistent goal has been to bring about direct negotiations between Israel and all its Arab neighbours — including Syria — on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338."

Djerejian said the next step would be Mr. Murphy's visit to the Middle East in mid-April.

Mr. Shultz said last week after talks with Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri that there was definite movement to resume the Middle East peace process and that Mr. Murphy would be exploring ways to maintain that momentum.

The Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a framework for Middle East peace is seen by Washington as a significant move in the right direction.

Syria, which backs a hardline faction of the PLO, has opposed the Amman accord.

The Reagan administration has resisted repeated Arab calls for a more active U.S. peace role in the Middle East, but Mr. Shultz said at a recent press conference: "We will do everything that we can to keep the momentum toward peace in the Middle East going. It is of vital significance not only to the parties in the region but to ourselves and other countries as well."



851 Sudanese flogged, fined or jailed

## Arrests continue in Sudan following 2-day protests

**KHARTOUM (R)**—Heavily-armed troops and police remained in force Saturday on Khartoum streets as arrests continued following two days of rioting earlier this week.

Troops, mostly from the elite Republican Guard, and police were deployed at strategic points including government offices, and questioned pedestrians in the souk (market) on whether they were from Khartoum or migrants from famine-stricken areas.

At least 100 migrants were taken to police headquarters to await deportation to their native regions, eyewitnesses said.

Nearly three million Sudanese have been driven from their homes by drought in the past year and large numbers have swarmed into the capital.

Police officials said many migrants seeking jobs and food were involved in two days of riots which erupted last Wednesday over President Jaafar Numeiri's decision to lift subsidies on food, petrol and other commodities.

The state-run daily Al-Ayyam quoted a senior police source as saying 851 people out of 2,264 arrested since the riots had been flogged, fined or sentenced to jail after summary trials.

Mr. Numeiri, in Washington for medical checks and talks with U.S. officials, blamed the unrest on the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood and told Sudanese journalists accompanying him that the ring leaders had gone into hiding.

Security officials here say the authorities are hunting 17 leading Muslim Brothers, including two former members of the People's Assembly (parliament) and an ex-provincial minister.

Mr. Numeiri purged his administration of Brotherhood members earlier this month and ordered the arrest of 11 of its leaders on charges of plotting to overthrow him.

The president, who has survived several attempts to unseat him since coming to power in a bloodless coup in 1969, is expected to shake-up his ruling Sudan Socialist Union (SSU) — Sudan's only legal political party — on his return from the U.S., one of his aides said.

At Ayyam and another state-run newspaper, Al-Sahafa, Saturday quoted SSU Secretary-General Mohamed Abdulkader Omar as saying the purge will be directed against spies, traitors and others who could not face up to the responsibility of the struggle.

Political sources said he was referring to the Muslim Brotherhood, whose influence within the administration grew after Mr. Numeiri introduced Sharia (Islamic Law) throughout the country last year.

Among Brotherhood members already arrested are Mr. Numeiri's former foreign policy adviser Mohammed Hassan Al Toubabi and former Internal Affairs Minister Ahmad Abdul-Rahman.

Since the rift with the Brotherhood, the president appears to have softened his stand on applying the Sharia by allowing embassies to import liquor and ignoring segregation rules in major hotels.

The introduction of Sharia had further alienated the predominantly Christian and Pagan south of the country, where Mr. Numeiri's troops are facing a rebellion by the Libyan-backed Sudanese People's Liberation Army.

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The Sudanese Doctors' Union meanwhile called a strike of its 3,000 members throughout the country against what it said was police heavy-handedness in the riots.

Union officials said some of Khartoum's 1,500 doctors had already stopped work and union Chairman Al Gazouli Dafa Allah was meeting doctors from the capital and elsewhere to finalise plans for the strike.

Sudan's doctors went on strike for three weeks nearly a year ago. Meanwhile senior U.S. officials Friday expressed concern over the stability of the government of Mr. Numeiri, the target of riots in the capital of Khartoum this week.

"We are concerned about the stability, the strength of the government of Sudan," one official told reporters while describing Mr. Numeiri, who is due to meet President Reagan on Monday, as a major U.S. friend and partner in Africa.

The officials, speaking on condition they not be named, said the chief topics of Mr. Numeiri's talks here next week would be Sudan's serious economic problems, insurgency in the south and its famine and refugee crisis.

In addition to meeting Mr. Reagan, Mr. Numeiri is also scheduled to hold talks with Secretary of State George Shultz, Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger and Peter McPherson, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development, although his visit here is officially a private one.

The officials said they were very interested in hearing about his economic plans.

This week's riots, in which three people were reported killed, followed Mr. Numeiri's scrapping of costly state subsidies on food and fuel and a hefty rise in bread prices.

As a result, a meeting of the 21-member Arab League Council in Tunis this week rejected a draft resolution that Arab states go to the conference, he said.

Morocco quit the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) last year after the admission of the Polisario guerrillas' self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

The SADR said in a communiqué, on Thursday that it would attend the Afro-Arab conference as a member of the OAU.

In an attempt to resolve the affair, Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klubi had talks with Morocco's King Hassan Friday, but Mr. Tazi said nothing had been changed.

Mr. Tazi, who is Morocco's permanent representative at the Tunis-based Arab League, said the League Council debated the issue for five hours.

Asked whether the decision to reject the draft resolution on the Afro-Arab conference meant that Arab states would not go to Tripoli, he said:

"Logically that's right. But we don't know what will happen in the next few days."

economic and strategic targets," it said.

Diplomats in Baghdad have said Mr. Aziz' current surprise visit to Moscow was connected with Iran's access to the missiles, which an Iraqi official said were a modified version of the old Soviet-made REF-17 type.

Iran has reported six missile attacks on Baghdad in the past 10 days and diplomatic sources say Libya or Syria may have supplied it with missiles.

Meanwhile an Indian peace mission headed by Minister of State for External Affairs Kurshed Alam Khan arrived to Tehran Saturday on a fresh Gulf war mediation mission.

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Sudanese youths sit atop a burned-out skeleton of an automobile which was among a number of vehicles burned in three days of rioting in Khartoum (AP wirephoto)

## Afro-Arab conference threatened by row over Polisario

**TUNIS (R)** — Arab states have not yet formally decided to attend an Afro-Arab conference in Libya next month in a row over participation of Polisario guerrilla delegates, Moroccan Ambassador Mohammed Tazi said Saturday.

Morocco, fighting Polisario guerrillas in the Western Sahara, threatened to quit the Arab League if Arab states attended the conference of foreign ministers in Tripoli on April 13, Mr. Tazi told Reuters.

"The delegates were told if the Arab countries accepted (to go to Tripoli) then Morocco will cease to be a member of the Arab League," he said.

As a result, a meeting of the 21-member Arab League Council in Tunis this week rejected a draft resolution that Arab states go to the conference, he said.

Morocco quit the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) last year after the admission of the Polisario guerrillas' self-proclaimed Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR).

The SADR said in a communiqué, on Thursday that it would attend the Afro-Arab conference as a member of the OAU.

In an attempt to resolve the affair, Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klubi had talks with Morocco's King Hassan Friday, but Mr. Tazi said nothing had been changed.

Mr. Tazi, who is Morocco's permanent representative at the Tunis-based Arab League, said the League Council debated the issue for five hours.

Asked whether the decision to reject the draft resolution on the Afro-Arab conference meant that Arab states would not go to Tripoli, he said:

"Logically that's right. But we don't know what will happen in the next few days."

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## Kidnappers release Briton in Lebanon

**BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP)** — Brian Levick, a 59-year-old British businessman kidnapped March 15 in mostly Muslim west Beirut, was freed Saturday, British Ambassador David Miers said.

Levick became the second Westerner to be released among the eight Europeans and an American who have been abducted at gunpoint or disappeared in Lebanon since March 16.

"I confirm that it is true that Mr. Levick has been released," Mr. Miers told the Associated Press. "I don't have any other details at the moment, but he is definitely free."

In London, the British Foreign Office said Mr. Levick was freed unharmed by his Muslim fundamentalist captors.

Geoffrey Nash, 60 and also a Britisher, was freed last Wednesday in west Beirut not far from where he was abducted on March 14. He was the first kidnapp victim in the two-week spate of abductions of foreigners.

The kidnappings of Nash and Levick had both been claimed in anonymous telephone calls or statements by two groups, the Jihad Islami, or Islamic Holy War, and the hitherto unheard of "Khaibar Brigades."

A Khaibar Brigades statement, delivered to a Western news agency, said the day before Nash's release, that he, Levick and a French embassy woman employee, Danielle Perez, would be released "very soon."

There was no word Saturday on the whereabouts of Mrs. Perez, 34, a secretary at the French embassy, who disappeared March 22 along with her father, Marcel Carton, 62, an embassy protocol officer.

That same day, Marcel Fontaine, 45, the French vice consul in Beirut, was abducted by armed men as he walked to work at the embassy in west Beirut.

The others who are missing are: — The Rev. Nicolas Kluiters, 44, a Dutch Roman Catholic priest, who disappeared in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley on March 14. His car was found with

Levick, managing director of the Coral Oil Co. in Lebanon, was dragged from his car by five armed men near his apartment in the Raouche section of west Beirut at about 1:30 p.m. (1130 GMT) on March 15.

The kidnapping prompted Ambassador Miers to warn British subjects to leave Lebanon unless they had "a compelling reason" to stay.

Nash, who works as a metallurgist for the Lebanese government, left Lebanon Saturday with his Lebanese wife, Walid, and a Royal Air Force helicopter for the Mediterranean island of Cyprus. They landed at mid-afternoon and were scheduled to take a commercial flight to Frankfurt, West Germany.

Jihad Islami, believed made up of Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalist loyal to Iran claimed responsibility for the abductions of Anderson and the three French missing from Beirut, as well as the seizures of Nash and Levick.

The group, which some observers believe is merely a codename used by various anti-Western organisations, has previously claimed responsibility for bomb attacks on French and American facilities in Lebanon and the kidnappings of four other missing Americans.

## Carter attacks Reagan Mideast peace policy

**TEL AVIV (AP)** — Former United States President Jimmy Carter attacked his successor Ronald Reagan in an interview for not doing enough to encourage peace negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

"Israel and the Arabs have always needed a reliable and persistent listening ear in the White House or State Department," the daily Jerusalem Post quoted Mr. Carter as saying in an interview.

"All of that is totally missing from Reagan's administration."

Mr. Carter said that following Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's peace initiative, which calls for direct talks between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to solve the future of the West Bank and the Palestinians, the United States had a necessary role in bringing the two sides to the negotiating table.

While he had played this role in bringing about the 1978 Camp David agreement, he said, as had former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in previous ceasefire agreements, Mr. Reagan had not done anything to help communications between Israel and the Arab side before peace talks got under way.

"In the absence of a U.S. role as a mediator or at least as a conduit of information and proposals, then it's almost impossible — if not impossible — for the Arabs and the Israelis to get to a negotiating table," the Post quoted him as saying.

Mr. Carter said he supported Mr. Mubarak's proposals for preliminary talks between the United States and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation before direct negotiations between Israel and this delegation.

Israel demands the right to veto the participation of any member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in the eventual peace talks, and has rejected the proposal for preliminary talks because it wants to avoid even tacit recognition by Washington of the PLO.

But Mr. Carter pointed out that the Camp David accords called for Palestinian representation in the Jordanian or Egyptian delegation, and he insisted that "there was a clear understanding with the Israeli officials at Camp David that credentials would not be examined of those who professed to speak for the Palestinians."

The United States would eventually have to talk to the PLO, he said, because "as far as the Palestinians are concerned, their spokesman are PLO officials ... I think that anyone who is familiar with the Palestinians of the West Bank knows that all of them acknowledge the PLO as their legal representatives."

He said the peace process could only be conducted without the PLO if Jordan "would be so powerful and independent in its political moves" as to reject the Arab League decisions that the PLO was the official representative of the Palestinians. But he said he believed Jordan could not take the same independent line as the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt in pursuing peace with Israel.

"Jordan can't survive being a pariah in the Arab World. Egypt could ... but Jordan would collapse if the Arab World ostracised Jordan's role."

## Sharon urges removal of UNIFIL from border area

**TEL AVIV (R)** — Cabinet Minister Ariel Sharon Saturday called for the removal of U.N. peacekeepers in South Lebanon from areas near the Israeli border and the establishment of a 30-kilometre-deep security zone.

"The security zone as I perceive it must be up to the Awali River," he said. "There cannot be terrorist bases ... and a Syrian force cannot enter."

Mr. Sharon, defence minister during the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, said the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia should patrol up to the Litani River, about 15 kilometres from the border.

"There are UNIFIL (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) forces in this area," he said. "They must leave the area and

Israel must stand firm and demand their removal."

Mr. Sharon, a member of the right-wing Likud Party and now minister of industry and trade of the Likud Party, said that before the 1982 invasion, some UNIFIL units had cooperated with Palestinian commandos who launched rocket attacks against northern Israel.

"We cannot expect quiet along the northern border if UNIFIL remains where it is," he said. "UNIFIL prevents SLA forces from patrolling or operating in the area."

UNIFIL's current six-month mandate expires on April 19 and Lebanon has requested the peacekeepers remain in the south of the country for another half-year with no change in its mandate.

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19:25 ..... Programmes Review  
19:35 ..... News Programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Special programme on Jordan's economic situation.  
Arabic Series  
21:30 ..... Arabic Series  
22:30 ..... Programme on Arabic Music  
23:00 ..... News in Arabic

##### FOREIGN CHANNEL

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19:00 ..... News in French  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
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22:00 ..... News in English  
22:30 ..... Scarecrow and Mrs. King

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Crown Prince condoles Al Zhair family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent Saturday paid a visit to the Al Zhair family and extended his condolences to them on the passing away of the late Mesh'al Mohammad Al Zhair.

## Regent to open youth seminar today

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on the problems of Jordanian youth, sponsored by the Jordan Humanism Forum will start Saturday at Yarmouk University Liaison Office under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent. The chairman of the forum's administrative committee, Dr. Ali Al Zughal, said that the seminar will discuss six working papers prepared by Jordanian specialists on various topics related to Jordanian youth, problems of youth in the secondary stage, problems facing Jordanian youth at home, Jordanian graduates returning to Jordan as well as economic independence for youth.

## Hikmat receives S. Korean envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities and Acting Information Minister Taher Hikmat Saturday received South Korean Ambassador in Amman Jai Sung Kim on the occasion of the end of the ambassador's term in office in Jordan. The meeting reviewed bilateral, cultural and tourist relations. Mr. Hikmat presented Mr. Kim with a commemorative gift in appreciation of his efforts to bolster the ties of friendship and the good relations between Jordan and South Korea.

## Fayez calls Lower House for session

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez has called the house to convene on Tuesday to discuss a number of temporary laws. Meanwhile, the education committee of the Upper House of Parliament has approved a number of laws pertaining to the Jordan Youth Organisation. The finance committee of the house passed 12 laws on monetary issues. Both committees were chaired by the house's speaker Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi.

## Agriculture Ministry issues import plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture will allow the import of dry onion, garlic, turnips, carrots, beets, sweet potatoes, coconuts, pears, sugarbeets, thyme and sage according to the ministry's import plan for April. The plan also allows the export of all fresh vegetables and fruits except for apples.

## Public asked to dispose of bags properly

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Agriculture has requested the public to dispose of empty plastic bags properly. The ministry said that many animals have died or were suffocated due to swallowing plastic bags. The ministry also advised shepherds not to graze their animals in areas where empty, used bags have been left.

## Petra opens office in Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, has decided to open an office in the central Jordan Valley with Mr. Saleh Al Odwan as the agency's representative. The new office, which will be in operation as of Saturday, is located within South Shouneh Municipality premises. The opening of the new office comes within the framework of the agency's plan to expand its services to various parts of Jordan.

## WAJ to decrease initial water connection fees

AMMAN (Petra) — Water subscription fees will decrease as of April, according to Water Authority of Jordan President Mohammad Saleh Keilani.

He said that the WAJ board of directors, chaired by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, has taken this decision in order to encourage people to apply for water connections.

According to the decision, new subscriptions, which used to cost JD 70 will be reduced to JD 50.

The cost includes the water meter, insurance, fixtures and fitting which are all provided by the WAJ.

In the case of moving metres, or installing sub-metres, the cost will be reduced from JD 70 to JD 35, and this also includes the metre, insurance, fixtures and fitting provided by the WAJ.

The decision excludes Jordan Valley where the cost will remain JD 10 as previously fixed.

## Multiple misunderstandings in a hilarious show

By Rana Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Hilarious situations, innuendo, marital infidelity portrayed as a trivial love affair, a fun-filled show and multiple misunderstandings all add up to one laughter-packed incident after another during the successful dinner-theatre play "How the Other Half Loves".

Alan Ayckbourn, the playwright, is now firmly accepted as one of the funniest and most civilised writers of comedy in theatre today. In "How the Other Half Loves", Ayckbourn tackles the theme of marital infidelity as a game to be played as 'brilliantly as possible'. Juggling with time and space, he presents two different married couples on stage inhabiting the same set but unaware of each other.

It is a cunning device which keeps the fun flowing, especially in one marvellously conceived scene in which Ayckbourn shows two dinner parties on separate nights taking place simultaneously at the same table. An original idea such as this is rare in comedy as the multiple misunderstandings develop towards the unpredictable climax. The author's dexterous handling of this complex plot gives the audience more than an excellent evening's entertainment.

Mr. Derek Nimmo plays the role of Frank Foster, the faithful husband, with witty dialogue and the genuine character of the "trouble maker" who suspects his wife, Fiona, played by Barbara Murray, of infidelity.

Simon Ward, playing Bob Phil-

lips, is the neighbouring husband who is led by Mr. Foster to suspect that his wife Terry — played by Joanna Dunham — is having an affair with the editor of the Guardian newspaper. However, Terry also suspects Bob of having an affair.

Christopher Beeny and Helen Cotterill, who play the role of the faithful couple, are wrongly accused of infidelity and become the "scape-goats" for the other two couples, the Fosters and the Philips.

**Passionate complications**  
Fiona Foster and Bob Philips have an affair, and the innocent third couple are thrown into passionate complications, with an outstanding plot that builds to become more complex and finally the play ends with Frank Foster saying "This play makes one think".

At the same time the audience was so much involved with the continuous and dramatic developments which was accompanied by a fast tempo which never really slackened. Throughout the play, the audience was so intimately drawn into the plot that there was no time for any distractions. This indeed is a credit to director of the play Jan Butlin, who together with Alan Ayckbourn presented one of the most if not the most successful comedies to be staged in the series of four dinner-theatre plays at the Intercontinental Hotel theatre shows in Amman.

Mr. Nimmo's professionalism was evident as both producer and



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent Saturday receives Egyptian Minister of Manpower and Training Sa'ad Mohammad Ahmad (second left) for talks on labour cooperation (Petra photo)

## Regent receives Egyptian minister of manpower for talks on labour ties

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday received the visiting Egyptian Minister of Manpower and Training Sa'ad Mohammad Ahmad for discussions on existing bilateral relations between the two countries and ways of strengthening them. Also discussed were the joint projects which aim to achieve integration in manpower fields. Attending the meeting were Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jabbar and Egyptian Ambassador in Amman Ihab Wahbe.

Mr. Ahmad left for Cairo later Saturday at the conclusion of a five-day visit to Jordan during which he held meetings and talks with a number of officials and trade unionists aimed at bolstering labour cooperation between Jordan and Egypt. The Egyptian minister also signed an agreement with his Jordanian counterpart Dr. Abdul Jabbar for organising the exchange of manpower between the two countries and for expanding cooperation in vocational training, occupational health and safety and social security.

Mr. Ahmad, who is also the president of the Egyptian Labour Federation, also met with the president and secretary general of the General Federation of Jordanian Trade Unions where the two sides discussed the promoting of cooperation between the two federations to serve the interests of Arab labourers.

Mr. Ahmad was seen off at the Queen Alia International Airport by Dr. Abdul Jabbar and Ministry of Labour and Social Development Under Secretary Saleh Al Khasawneh, Mr. Wahbeh, senior ministry officials and Egyptian embassy staff in Amman.

## Active month for Amman WHO office

By Simonetta Carr  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The end of March and the beginning of April are full of activities for the office of the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Amman, according to Mr. Ahmed Rafik Rustum, the administrative officer for the Amman branch of WHO.

Rustum told the Jordan Times that several meetings will be held in close succession during this period of time and that delegations of WHO officers and experts will be attending the meeting.

Two WHO officers, in fact, have already arrived in Amman and will remain to attend the first meeting held on March 30 and 31. This meeting, which took place at the University of Jordan, is the sixth meeting of the Regional Scientific Working Group on Diarrhoeal Diseases: Research which usually meets annually. The objective of the meeting, as Mr. Rustum explained, is to review the progress of the ongoing research projects which are supported by regional programmes and to review the research proposals which were submitted by the government, in order to organise financial support from WHO. "Diarrhoeal diseases are still very important in the Middle Eastern region, especially among infants," Mr. Rustum said.

This meeting precedes another one which Mr. Rustum describes as even more important and on a larger scale. This will be the East Mediterranean Advisory Committee on Medical Research Meeting, which will also take place at the University of Jordan with approximately 42 participants. Some of the participants from the first meeting will attend to this one also, which will last from April 1-4.

This advisory committee was established in 1976 in order to

advise the regional director of WHO for the Eastern Mediterranean region on the regional research policies and progress, and in order to strengthen the capabilities of research in member states of the region.

This meeting will be attended by representatives of the Eastern Mediterranean Region (one of the six WHO regions, consisting of 23 or 24 states), the regional director, Dr. Hussein Gezairy, as well as senior scientists and research workers of the region, and high-ranking officials including Minister of Health Kamel Aljouni. The meeting will discuss inter-country research activities which have now been increasingly focused on social-relevant topics supporting the WHO strategy of "health for all in the year 2000".

Mr. Rustum said that last year's East Mediterranean Advisory Committee Meeting discussed mainly the medical education in the area. "WHO is especially keen at promoting involvement of medical schools and universities in this region," he added.

Following this meeting, a joint government-WHO programme review will follow from April 5-12, discussing the dialogue and closer collaboration which is being established between WHO and the regional authorities. This review, which is usually repeated every two years, will put at disposal of the country a number of WHO members who will then work closely with a national team to examine and review past and future programmes and schedules in the country and the cooperation between the country itself and WHO.

Mr. Rustum said that, presently, a workshop is also taking place in cooperation with the Water Authority of Jordan. This workshop, called "Human Resources Management Workshop", is concerned with the water and

sewerage situation in the country.

It is also discussing the imminent opening of a new WHO centre which will be sited on the first floor of the Primary Health Care Building in Shmeisani. This centre, known as Centre for Environment and Health Activities (CEHA), originated from the need which was felt by all member states in the field of environmental health.

Mr. Rustum explained that the CEHA will act as technical and scientific arm for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office in improving and accelerating the works concerning water supply and sanitation. Its functions will be those of providing technical and scientific support to member states of the Eastern Mediterranean region, planning projects involving institutional capabilities and collaborating with countries in the development and implementation of "environment and health".

It will also organise training programmes and support the countries' activities in this area. "The centre will serve" Mr. Rustum continued, "as a regional technical information centre in the environmental planning and engineering".

The fourth meeting will be a national training course organised jointly by the Ministry of Health and WHO. The course, under the official name of "Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases and Epidemiology Supervisory Skill Training Course", will gather about 40 participants at the Primary Health Care Building from April 7-18.

Most of these meetings are intended as a joint effort between the government and WHO, in line with the basic WHO philosophy of partnership.

Mr. Rustum, who has been working as a WHO official for 17 years, said that he has never found better cooperation between WHO and a government as in Jordan. He said that Jordan's minister of health is very sensitive to the concept of primary health care and very keen to make every effort in that direction.

## Municipal meeting tackles building law, rubbish removal

## Nabulsi urges mayors to improve public services

By Olga Mikhail  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The municipalities surrounding Amman are facing very bad conditions in terms of public services including cleanliness, tidiness of municipal entrances and the level of public safety programmes, Minister of Municipal, Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Nabulsi said Saturday.

Addressing mayors representing the 18 municipalities surrounding Amman, the minister called on officials to improve the level of public services taking into consideration the good financial situation enjoyed by these municipalities. Mr. Nabulsi asked the mayors to remove garbage and broken cars which are disfiguring municipality entrances.

During the meeting the minister emphasised the need to find a solution to the garbage problem which he said is threatening the health condition of the country. He also mentioned the need to build new, modern incinerators within the borders of municipalities.

The over lapping of residential areas with the industrial areas, due to a lack of planning, was also discussed during the meeting and Mr. Nabulsi requested that mayors supervise and control the various industrial projects implemented within the borders of their municipalities.

## Building violations

"Many people violated the law and built houses on land outside the organisational borders of municipalities,"

he said. "We hope that this law will halt the haphazard increase in buildings outside the organisational borders of the municipalities" Mr. Nabulsi added. "The municipalities should not, however, provide these people with water or electricity because this will increase the number of unlicensed buildings within the borders of municipalities," he added.

The minister also stressed the need to increase green zones within municipalities which, he said, will help to decrease air pollution in the atmosphere and will add to the beauty of these municipalities.

During the meeting the Amman Municipality undersecretary explained the role of Amman Municipality in helping and supporting different municipalities to implement projects by providing technical assistance, the materials and machinery needed for their projects.

The new organisation law was also explained during the meeting and Mr. Nabulsi said that the new law will simplify conditions and will specify the responsibilities of both the mayors and the municipalities.

"We hope that this law will halt the haphazard increase in buildings outside the organisational

borders of the municipalities" Mr. Nabulsi added. Mr. Nabulsi explained that the organisation law was sent to His Majesty King Hussein for approval by Royal Decree.

## Public safety

The municipalities health conditions were also emphasised during Saturday's meeting. The minister pinpointed the role of public safety committees in projecting the right image regarding environmental conditions in these municipalities to the ministry and the concerned bodies in the government.

"What we need is the cooperation and coordination of mayors in their municipalities with the official bodies from the ministry and to provide these bodies with proper data, statistics and information about the conditions of municipalities," the minister said.

Mr. Nabulsi added that this information will help the ministry carry out the Greater Amman study to include future plans for Amman and all the municipalities surrounding the city.

Other subjects such as building schools, clinics, commercial centres and the licensing procedure which should be followed in accordance with the new law were also tackled during the meeting.

Concluding his speech Mr. Nabulsi asked mayors to be 'more responsible' and to implement projects which are useful for people and to accept criticism rather than blaming other parties for the mistakes they might be making.

## PTC to introduce circular bus routes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Transport Corporation (PTC) has decided to run bus services on circular routes within Amman starting on April 1.

The first circular route will serve Jabal Al Taj and Jabal Al Ashrafieh. The route will start from the main bus terminal down-town towards Al Jawfah crossing, to Ashrafieh, through the hospitals' street, Barto Street, down Al Musdar Street and back to the terminal.

The second circular route will

be the Jabal Ashrafieh-Jabal Al Taj route. The bus will start from the main terminal, proceed to Al Jawfah crossing, through Al Taj main street, Al Shaheed street, Al Mahasreh neighbourhood, Al Yarmouk Street, Al Nasha crossing, Al Mahatta road and Al Hashimi street.

The third route will be the Al Nuzha circular route which starts from down-town Amman through Al Hashimi road, Wadi Al Hadadeh, Prince Hassan neighbourhood, Al Nuzha bridge, Al Istiklal street, Ministry of Interior

Circle, Jabal Al Hussein and returning to the first stop.

The fourth route will be the Abdali-Nuzha circular route. This circuit starts at Shabsough Street, passes through King Hussein Street and Abdali to the Ministry of Interior Circle, then through Al Istiklal Street, to Al Nuzha bridge and Prince Hassan neighbourhood then back through Jabal Nuzha, Wadi Al Hadadeh to Shabsough Street.

The fifth circuit will be the Ras Al Ain-Al Wihdat route.

## Specialised training course on water analysis starts at Jordan University

By Monika Warich  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A training course on "Water Sampling and Chemical Analysis" opened Saturday at the Water Research and Study Centre (WRSC) at the University of Jordan.

Dr. Abdul Wahab Al Borolossi, University of Jordan vice president for scientific affairs, said that water resources are becoming increasingly scarce world-wide and that rationalisation of water is very important.

He said water resources must be protected against pollution and should be re-circulated. Dr. Borolossi called for the use of specific samples collection and electrical analysis to determine the suitability of water for human consumption and use.

The director of the WRSC, Dr. Elias Salameh, stressed the importance of such courses to transfer advanced technical experience from Germany to Jordan.

The course is organised by the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) and the WRSC in cooperation with three West German organisations; the German Association for Water Resources and Land Improvement (DVWK), the Carl-Duisberg Society (CDG), the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and the German International Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

The participants in the training course will hear lectures on water analysis and the interpretation of laboratory results as well as going on field trips for water samples and following that they will analyse samples in the WRSC laboratory.

Dr. Dirksen of DVWK said that this course is one in a series that the DVWK is holding to transfer the technology of water analysis to Jordan.

The course, which runs for five days, groups participants from the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the WAJ, GTZ, Jordan mineral water companies and the University of Jordan.

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## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Economy fared well in 1984

THE FINAL figures for the gross national product (GNP) in 1984 are still under revision and subject to refinement before they may be officially released.

Tentatively, it is estimated that GNP in 1984 reached JD 2008 million, a growth in current prices of around 8.6 per cent.

The gross domestic product on the other hand is roughly estimated to have been in the order of JD 1604 million, a growth in current prices of 7.9 per cent.

Excluding an inflation rate of 3.9 per cent, as measured by the cost of living index, the net

real growth in the Jordanian economy would be close to four per cent. This moderate rate of growth is obviously not impressive in comparison with the record in recent years. It is nevertheless satisfactory in the circumstances, and much better than generally expected.

The Central Bank of Jordan estimated 1984-remittances of the Jordanian expatriates working abroad at JD 475 million, an increase of 18 per cent over 1983. It is obviously a big increase. If it is true, it shows that the dreaded massive return of Jordanian expatriates from the Arab Gulf states is

unfounded, and that a substantial drop in their remittances to their relatives in Jordan and the West Bank is not imminent.

One of the major bright indicators is the rise of 15 per cent in the industrial production index, which measures industrial output in volume. Potash and fertilizers have started to make an impact.

The worst indicator is the decline of 9.2 per cent in the value added contributed by the agricultural sector. The real decline could be 12.5 per cent in constant prices.

It is indeed alarming that the share of agriculture in the gross

domestic product in 1984 was only 5.6 per cent. Agriculture is almost dying or fading away despite all the lip service and financial public expenditure it is attracting.

Foreign trade estimates indicate that exports increased by JD 90 million to reach JD 250 million, while imports decreased by JD 43 million to JD 160 million. The commodity trade gap thus narrowed in 1984 by JD 133 million. This is a positive development taking place for the first time in Jordan's economic history. The phenomenon must be encouraged vigorously, even if it

was attributed by the commercial community to an economic recession.

The balance of payments is also still under process, but the changes in the financial position of the banking sector, suggest that the deficit in 1984 was relatively big and ranged between JD 55 to 70 million, which is a record high.

The reserves of the country in gold and transferable foreign exchange stood at JD 608 million at the year end (without deducting the non-resident off-shore deposits). This represents the value of imports in

goods and services of around five months.

The deficit in the balance of payments despite the government's long-term borrowing, and the resulting drop in foreign exchange reserve are alarming signs calling for immediate action to curb the trend or reverse it, protect the country's reserves and maintain the transferability of the Jordanian dinar and the continued strength in the country's financial position which was once praised by international bankers, citing sufficient reserves, low indebtedness and good management.

## Remember Carter?

ANYONE familiar with efforts to solve the Palestinian problem must surely remember Jimmy Carter. The former president spent very long hours and put in a lot of effort to do something for the Middle East. He eventually came up with the Camp David accords, and would have gone a little bit further had he been reelected president in 1980.

For Mr. Carter, the Reagan administration is not doing enough to encourage peace negotiations between Israel and the Arab World. "Israel and the Arabs have always needed a reliable and persistent listening ear in the White House or State Department," he told the Jerusalem Post newspaper in an interview published on Friday. But "all of that is totally missing from Reagan's administration," he added.

What the former president suggested in the interview is for the U.S. administration to support President Mubarak's proposals for preliminary talks between the U.S. and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation before wider negotiations take place on the issue. And he also insisted that Washington would eventually have to talk to the PLO, because "as far as the Palestinians are concerned, their spokesmen are PLO officials... I think that anyone who is familiar with the Palestinians of the West Bank knows that all of them acknowledge the PLO as their legal representatives."

For this position, Mr. Carter truly deserves high marks. But would his words have an impact on the thinking in Washington to do something? We wonder.

If President Reagan is really interested in moving the peace process forward, he might as well consider designating his predecessor a special envoy for the Middle East. For one thing, the former president is quite knowledgeable on the Palestinian problem and seems enthusiastic enough to want to do something about it. For another, his status as a former president might impress upon most of the parties concerned in the conflict that Washington does mean business this time and is determined to solve the problem in all its aspects.

Of course Mr. Carter's choice as a special Middle East envoy is not an easy option for the Americans to consider. But, if made, it would definitely herald a new and positive interest in the area that cannot go unnoticed. President Carter's chances of success as a peacemaker might be stronger than his chances were when he was president. But this is a subject full of complications and question marks. It has, and deserves, to be well prepared and debated.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Land Day — a reminder

ON SATURDAY, March 30th, the steadfast Arab people in the occupied territories observe the Day of the Land, an anniversary of the killing of Palestinian Arabs by the Zionists when they tried to defend their land. This anniversary is observed to manifest the adherence of the Arab inhabitants under Israeli rule to their land, which the Israelis continually attempt to usurp.

On the eve of the anniversary, the Israeli interior minister called on the Arabs to change the anniversary's name into Day of Man to signify the start of building bridges of understanding and affection between Arabs and Jews in Israel. But this minister has forgotten that the Israeli leaders and their society do not know any kind of human sentiment towards the Arabs and they continue to practise racial discrimination against them. The steadfast Arab people under Israeli rule who observe this anniversary would not be taken in by the minister's call, because they have had long hard experience in their dealings with the occupation authorities, an experience that reminds them of the continuous acts of terror and intimidation against the Arabs and the expropriation of Arab land.

Day of the Land has become a symbol of steadfastness for the Arabs under the Israeli occupation rule and will continue to be an incentive for them to carry out resistance activity to protect their land and themselves. Day of the Land remains as a reminder to the Arab countries and their peoples of their responsibilities towards the inhabitants of the occupied territories and their struggle to liberate their kinmen and their land.

### Al Dustour: Time to remember martyrs

BY OBSERVING Day of the Land anniversary, millions of Arabs in general and the Palestinians in particular renew their adherence to the land which is now occupied by Israel and remember the martyrs who fell in the struggle to regain their usurped land.

The anniversary this year comes amid intensified attempts by Zionist extremists to try to evict more and more Arabs from their lands while the Arab inhabitants increase their efforts to cling to their land and property. Any observance of this anniversary outside the occupied Arab areas represents a solidarity with the Arab inhabitants under the Israeli rule and displays the Arab Nation's commitment to struggle for the return of the usurped land to the legitimate owners.

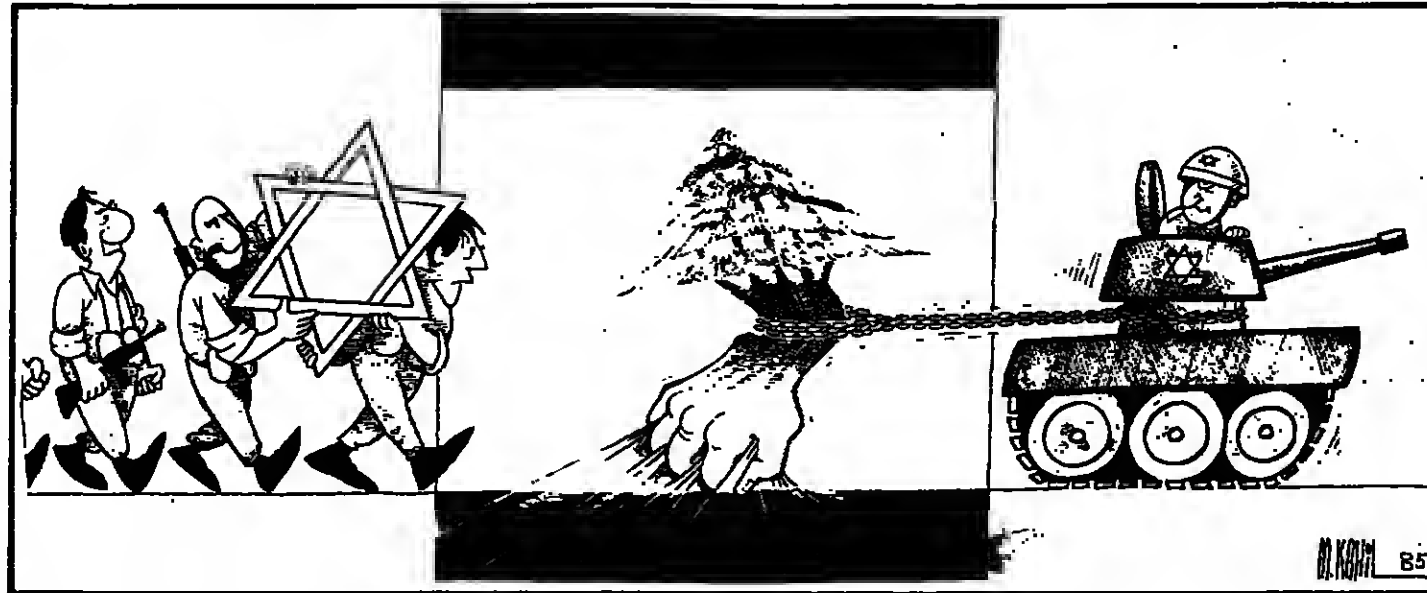
It is an anniversary that reminds us all to work for that day when the Palestinian Arabs regain their rights and their land no matter how long the struggle will take for that.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Symbols of resistance

ON MARCH 30 every year public gatherings and marches are staged in the occupied Arab territories to manifest the people's commitment to resist the Israeli occupation authorities' plans to seize Arab lands and evict the population from them.

This anniversary reminds the Israelis that it will be futile for them to try to subjugate the Arabs by force and to seize their property. The anniversary serves as a reminder to the Israelis that the martyrs who fell in defence of their land in Palestine now act as a symbol of struggle and as torches, lighting the path for those who come after them. This is manifest in the resistance which the village of Umm Al Fahm had displayed when Meir Kahane, the Zionist terrorist rabbi, tried to storm their land and homes, and also in the persistence of the Arab inhabitants, who confront the Israeli moves with all their might.

This anniversary is an embodiment of the idea of liberation with the meaning of sacrifice for the homeland. Israel, which has been aiming at swallowing up Arab land and evicting its Arab people continues to refuse to exchange land for peace and continues to demand a capitulation by the Arabs.



## Thatcher helps Israel the chemical way

IN A gesture which appears certain to stir controversy in the Arab World, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has endorsed the establishment of a chair of chemistry carrying her name at Israel's Weizmann Institute.

The Margaret Thatcher Chair in Chemistry was inaugurated at a dinner at London's Savoy Hotel on March 6. Proceeds from the event went towards the \$400,000 needed to endow the chair.

Addressing the dinner, Mrs. Thatcher declared: "Israel's right to exist in peace behind secure and defensible borders must be fully acknowledged. We have never been in any doubt about that."

She added that Britain's calls for Israel to return to its 1967 frontiers did not amount to "pressing Israel to do anything against her interests".

Chaim Weizmann, a noted chemist who became Israel's first President, lived in Manchester for some years, and played a key role in securing British support for Zionist colonisation in Palestine, as enshrined in the Balfour Declaration of 1917. He had a profound and racist contempt for Arabs, and characterised the forced expulsion of the Palestinians from their homeland as "a miraculous simplification of Israel's

tasks".

At the Savoy, Mrs. Thatcher, who studied chemistry as an undergraduate, declared that she had always felt an affinity with Dr. Weizmann who, like herself, had been both a scientist and a politician. "Both Britain and Israel have reason to be grateful to Chaim Weizmann, and we are both proud to claim him as our own," she asserted.

Last year Mrs. Thatcher caused a furor in the Arab World by accepting the presidency of the North London Area Council of the Conservative Friends of Israel, one of Britain's most active pro-Israel

lobby groups. She has since insisted that this in no way conflicted with her government's professed "even-handed" approach to Middle East conflict.

Asked whether Mrs. Thatcher had any qualms about becoming associated with the Weizmann Institute, a Downing Street spokesman said that, on the contrary, she had "accepted the offer graciously". He refused to see any political interpretation whatsoever which could be placed on her decision — Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU) Bulletin.

## Gorbachev presented as modest, energetic

By Charles Bremner  
Reuter

MOSCOW — Though not a word has appeared in the state media on the personality of Mikhail Gorbachev, the new Soviet leader seems to have become the focus of a campaign to project his modesty and taste for hard work.

Diplomats and journalists are intrigued by the speed with which stories illustrating the personal style of Mr. Gorbachev, who took office on March 11 after the death of President Konstantin Chernenko, have begun circulating in Moscow.

The anecdotes, which highlight his energy and brisk approach to business, are being passed on in private by Soviet officials and journalists who have contacts with foreigners.

Mr. Gorbachev is said to have telephoned Pravda Editor Viktor Afanasyev and asked him if he had the works of Lenin in his office. Yes, he was told.

"Then please quote Lenin and not me in the newspaper," Mr. Gorbachev is said to have replied.

A similar phenomenon followed the appointment of Yuri Andropov after the death of Pre-

sident Leonid Brezhnev in November 1982.

Through leaks and confidential story-telling, Mr. Andropov was projected to the outside world as an enlightened intellectual who had a taste for jazz and Western aperitifs and who abhorred a showy public style.

Analysts subsequently attributed this to a sophisticated public relations effort inspired by the KGB security and intelligence service which Mr. Andropov had headed for 15 years.

Whether the accounts of Mr. Gorbachev's actions are true or not, diplomats say they appear to reflect an effort to accentuate aspects of the new leader's style.

The stories largely echo impressions of Mr. Gorbachev given by Western leaders who have met him and say he is a man of personal charm and quick intelligence.

The stories also reinforce the feeling that Mr. Gorbachev is in a hurry to shake up the bureaucratic system and crack down on time-wasting, corruption and inefficiency, as was Mr. Andropov.

According to one tale passed to Western journalists, Mr. Gor-

bachev declined to attend a traditional lunch at the Communist Party Central Committee after his formal appointment as leader.

He was said to have told the officials "I urge you to get back to your duties as soon as possible" and added that he did not want them to pass on his greetings at the lunch.

The Pravda story is told with others on the theme of modesty.

Editors are said to have been ordered to cut back the references to the party chief and quotations from his speeches that often pepper Soviet newspaper articles and broadcast news programmes.

The pages of the official press over the past two weeks appear to corroborate this. Mr. Gorbachev is rarely mentioned by name and his policies are being referred to as "decisions of the plenary meeting of the central committee".

Mr. Andropov adopted a similar style, shunning the personal glorification that had come to surround Mr. Brezhnev.

The new leader showed something of his impatience over Soviet ritual when he cut short a standing ovation for him at a meeting of the Russian Federation Parliament this week.

Soviet journalists said word had passed round the assembled deputies that he did not want heavy applause.

Mr. Gorbachev's energy is illustrated by reports of his hectic two days of meetings with some two dozen foreign leaders following the Chernenko funeral.

He is said to have exhausted the country's veteran Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, 75, who is renowned for his stamina and capacity for work.

Diplomats and journalists have also noted another feature that sets Mr. Gorbachev alongside Mr. Andropov and apart from Mr. Brezhnev and Chernenko: an absence of jokes.

Mr. Brezhnev was the butt of countless underground anecdotes of the type that circulate about party leaders across socialist Eastern Europe. The joke supply dried up with the arrival in office of the austere Andropov.

Anecdotes about Mr. Chernenko, seen to typify the old style of party bureaucrat, began circulating immediately after his appointment in February last year.

So far, nobody appears to be telling Mr. Gorbachev jokes.

## Duarte fears election may strengthen right

By Joseph B. Frazier.

SAN SALVADOR — The president's job is not at stake in Sunday's elections, but Jose Napoleon Duarte is running hard in an effort to change the balance in a legislature that has blocked or thwarted many of his policies.

Mr. Duarte's moderate Christian Democrats are given little chance of picking up the seven seats needed for a majority in the assembly, but he wants at least to keep the rightist bloc from gaining enough strength to override his veto.

The elections have, in effect, become a referendum on the president's first 10 months in office, and even the Christian Democrat campaign reflects that.

One of its full-page newspaper advertisements reads: "We have the man. We should support him."

Campaign ads by the opposition call Mr. Duarte's government "the dictatorship" and point in general terms to joblessness, closed schools and violence.

At a news conference Friday, Mr. Duarte declined to predict the outcome of the voting. He used the conference to defend his 10-month-old government, saying, "I cannot obtain all of my goals overnight."

A fierce brand of mudslinging marked the previous political campaigns held during the U.S.-backed government's 15-year-old war against leftist guerrillas, but this one has been fairly quiet despite its importance to both sides.

It is all uphill for the Christian Democrats in the national assembly. They hold 24 of the 60 seats, rightists have 34 and the other two belong to a small party not allied with either side.

The right must gain six seats to reach the two-thirds control needed to override a Duarte veto, and the Christian Democrats need seven more seats for a majority. Neither is considered likely.

Julio Rey Prendes, Mr. Duarte's chief adviser, said he had concluded that a low voter turnout will help the Christian Democrats.

Voters must cast their ballots in the place where their government identity card was issued, which could hurt turnout among those who have been displaced by the war.

The leftists, as usual, are not participating. Guerrilla leaders said they would not disrupt the elections so long as troops stayed out of their territory, but nonetheless have attacked 17 municipal buildings and 11 telecommunications offices in five weeks.

Rebels ordered drivers to stay off the country's roads as of Thursday, a tactic they use frequently to damage the economy. They did not say how long the ban would last.

Troops were guarding highways and 10,000 soldiers were deployed, particularly in the eastern and northern regions where the rebels are strongest.

A machine-gun attack on a bus Friday killed one woman and wounded other riders, local sources said. Military sources in the area

said guerrillas enforcing the pre-election traffic ban may have been responsible.

The shooting was near El Rinco, 118 kilometres east of the capital, the civilian and military sources said. They asked not to be identified for security reasons.

On Friday the rebels' radio Venceremos said a guerrilla group was responsible for the attack Wednesday night on the national police headquarters in downtown San Salvador. One civilian was killed and eight others were injured when rebels fired rifles, rockets and grenades on the building.

Two rounds of peace talks have been held with the leftists, but there has been no visible progress that Mr. Duarte would use to his advantage. A third round was postponed until after the elections.

Other critical issues for Mr. Duarte's administration and the rightist-controlled national assembly are soaring prices and a near 50-per cent rate of unemployment and underemployment.

## The police could not break Sartzetakis's justice-haunted head

From Reuter

ATHENS — Christos Sartzetakis, the unassuming Supreme Court judge elected Friday as Greece's new president, grew up in an atmosphere of persecution and poverty that gave him a passionate belief in justice.

Never a publicity-seeker, 56-year-old Sartzetakis was apparently taken as much by surprise as the rest of Greece when on March 9, Socialist Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu nominated him for the presidency rather than incumbent President Constantine Karamanlis.

The following day Mr. Karamanlis resigned before the end of his term of office.

"It is unexpected for one who never had anything to do with active politics, though I am proud to say I have a full political conscience. But I am always above parties," Mr. Sartzetakis said.

Born in Salonika in northern Greece in 1929, Mr. Sartzetakis was a lawyer before becoming a junior judge 29 years ago. He rose to become a Supreme Court judge in 1982.

He came to the public eye in 1963 when he headed a team investigating the murder of a left-wing deputy, Grigoris Lambrakis, during a rally in Salonika.

Senior police officials were found to be implicated, although Mr. Karamanlis, who was then prime minister of a right-wing government, was untouched.

The Lambrakis affair inspired the award-winning film "Z", in which Mr. Sartzetakis was portrayed by French actor Jean-Louis Trintignant.

Costa-Gavras film is closely based on an incident in 1963 when a popular deputy of a Communist-Front Party, Grigoris Lambrakis, was run over and killed by a van during a disarmament rally in Salonika.

Mr. Sartzetakis, then a young examining magistrate, undertook the investigation of the case, cutting through official efforts at a cover-up to prove the killing was deliberate, with senior police officials implicated.

At one point, Trintignant tricks the driver of the van into admitting he belongs to an extreme



right-wing organisation by accusing him of being a Communist, whereupon the driver blurts out his far-right credentials.

There were laughs in one cinema when a senior judiciary officer tried to pressure Trintignant into dropping the case by saying: "You are at the beginning of a career which could either be cut off suddenly, or could take you to the greatest heights."

The film, which also stars Yves Montand and Irene Pappas, begins with the words: "Any resemblance to real persons is not coincidental". As the film draws to a close, one of Lambrakis' supporters says with delight: "Le petit juge ne s'est pas dégonflé. (The little judge didn't pipe down)"

The Lambrakis killing was one of the factors behind the resignation of Constantine Karamanlis as prime minister the same year, although he was not found to be implicated.

Mr. Sartzetakis' brother Yannis, a mathematics professor, recalls how he and Christos received many death threats during the Lambrakis investigation. "Many times he would hide vital documents of the case under his bed," he said.

During the 1967-74 military dictatorship, Mr. Sartzetakis was stripped of his post, arrested and tortured for his liberal ideas.

He still recalls how his father, a police officer, was dismissed from the service in 1935 for supporting an anti-monarchist rebellion in the armed forces.

## LETTERS

### Weekends can be safer

To the Editor:

NOW THAT a new government reshuffle is being opened in the Dead Sea area, more and more vacationers will be encouraged to spend the weekend there. The new complex is spacious and provides all convenience to the visitors, mostly Ammanites who seek a quiet place to rest and a real change from the monotonous and dreary life they lead in the city. The time most people are free is weekends. Those who visited the Dead Sea or the Jordan Valley region over the past two weeks must have noticed the traffic congestion along roads, numerous car accidents, and cars back to the capital in the evening.

The roads were over-congested with vehicles of all sorts, private cars, pick-up trucks and lorries as well as buses with full loads of school children who spent the day in the sun on the beaches of the Dead Sea or at Wadi Shu'ab in the warm Jordan Valley. Motorists bore the brunt of the crisis and their strained nerves edging their way up hill towards Amman in the most bizarre manner. It is not surprising then to see so many accidents on the roads and a happy holiday ending in frustration.

The Jordan Valley is accessible via three approaches: Na'our, Wadi Shu'ab and Zay, and had the stream of cars been directed into these three roads, no congestion could have happened and no disappointments too. Two institutions can help remedy the situation: the police department, which can post more men out there to maintain order, and Jordan Television which can film the occurrences committed by some drivers so as to help curb such

Actually, every citizen can make a contribution to improve the situation, and we sincerely hope they do so, in order to help us all enjoy a happy holiday.

Nader E. Ghattas  
Jabal Al Hussein,  
Amman.



# 'Born again' fundamentalists hate Sandinistas

While attention is focussed on the conflict between the Vatican and Nicaragua's progressive Catholics, London-based "South" magazine reports a more sinister, crusade led by "born-again" fundamentalists and the Moonie cult which aims at nothing less than the overthrow of the Sandinista government.

POPE JOHN Paul II. figures he has real problems in Latin America, what with those "turbulent priests" of Nicaragua. What with liberation theology and all its works. But what bothers him most is that the vast majority of Catholic Nicaraguans obviously embrace the revolution.

So, he has moved to de-frock the four Sandinista priests when they defied orders to abandon the cabinet. He has also denounced this heresy that speaks of direct action to remould and transform an unequal and unjust society, as Nicaragua was under the previous corrupt Somoza regime. He is, however, not getting much mileage in convincing his flock in that embattled — but nonetheless proud — nation.

The Sandinistas view the Vatican's hostility within a much wider context. Over 50,000 of the three-million people perished under Somoza's reign of terror; the country continues to be threatened and its re-construction efforts undermined by the United States and its "Contra" army. Nicaraguans yearn for nothing less than a period of peace to eradicate poverty, disease and illiteracy. Since the vast majority of the people are Catholics, the church must serve the people. The doctrine alluded to by this highly conservative Pope and his Curia in Rome can, at its very best, be irrelevant and out-dated. At its worst, it is downright dangerous and subversive. Opposing social justice, when the

ying the religious game as well and out-flanking the Pope in ultra-conservatism. "If the Pontiff thinks he is right-wing," comments a Sandinista official, "well, he ain't seen nothin' yet."

In 1979, U.S. and Canadian overseas missionaries despatched worldwide numbered 53,500; their agencies operated on budgets of nearly \$1.2-billion. There were, additionally, 30,300 Mormon and 100 Jehovah's Witnesses. Less than 5,000 of these non-Catholic missionaries were mainstream Protestants. By the early 1980s, over 1,500 "born-again" fundamentalists were thumping their Bibles at Central American peasants. They were, nonetheless, a lot more successful with the landlords and the business elite who found "Jesus Saves" a most agreeable slogan to attack radical reforms to their vested interests. Nearly a quarter of Guatemala's population, 15 per cent of Nicaragua's and 12 per cent of Panama's are now hailed to be "saved".

Were this a mere rivalry between souls lost or won, Sandinistas believe, it would be dismissed as a non-issue. The fundamentalists are not merely anti-Catholic but anti-social change and the revolution. Honduras, which shares a border with Nicaragua and is host to the U.S.-backed "Contras" (the remnants of the Somoza army), is the launching pad for the "born-again" crusade. Along the border, graffiti have been spotted with injunctions like "Christ calls on the fighter to repent!" and "Thou shalt not kill!" The target is not

the "Contra" terrorist who raids, kills, pillages and rapes, but the Nicaraguan patriot responding to defend his or her country.

Within Honduras itself, the U.S. has bases and "advisers". The CIA — which recently published its infamous murder manual — is also actively entrenched. There is yet also, the Association for Progress of Honduras (APROH), a bizarre collection of Protestant fundamentalist groups in the Honduran military banded together with a common anti-Communist crusade. The newspaper, El Tiempo, recently published secret documents of APROH. One document, dated Sept. 28, 1983, referred to the Henry Kissinger Commission on Central America. To cure the region of the "cancer of Communism", it was imperative to "get rid of Nicaragua" through military means.

On Nov. 4, last year, Nicaragua went to the polls for the first time, and after five years of Somoza's downfall. The Sandinistas, on a platform of plurality in politics, the economy and foreign affairs, received an overwhelming mandate from the electorate. A second-term Reagan administration, which had initially demanded the polls in the first place, continue to oppose the legitimate government. In late February, he echoed APROH's and other fundamentalist groups' demands in his bluntest call to "remove" the "present structure" of the government in Nicaragua. He condemned the Sandinistas as a "totalitarian, brutal, cruel" regime which does not have "a decent leg to stand on."

Mr. Reagan is now believed to be, at once, the voice of, as well as, the captive of the "Moral Majority." The fundamentalists are not just penetrating the inner reaches of the White House and the Congress, but are exporting their ultra-rightwing politics. They have had some success, as evidenced by Rios Montt, the deposed Guatemalan strongman. In the Lebanon, it is also an active backer of the Israeli surrogate army, once led by the dead Maj. Haddad. Maj. Haddad, "born-again" Christians hold, was a "man of God". Within Asia, it is also making inroads. Even materialist Singapore is now believed to have several key cabinet ministers who have "converted".

Even the Philippines, staunchly Catholic, is keenly eyed as fertile ground. However, the fundamentalists may have been preempted by the arrival of the U.S.-based Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. President Marcos, under siege from his own people and booted up in Malacanang Palace, has embraced the Unified Field Theories of the Yogi and been appointed president of the "World Government of the Age of Enlightenment."

The Philippines is not the only place where the fundamentalists appear to face competition from rival cults and sects, outbidding them at their own game. "Here commeth the Moonies!" quips a Nicaraguan observer. The Unification Church of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon is muscling in, with cash to boot. The 64-year old Moon, unfortunately, will not be around these days to oversee the operations. He is currently serving

an 18-month prison sentence in the U.S. for income tax evasion. But the Moonies have already got a foothold in Honduras as well and are members of APROH.

CAUSA — the Confederation of Associations for the Unity of American Society — is its main channel for attacking Nicaragua and aiding right-wing regimes in the region. Rev. Moon himself, like his South Korean compatriot, Colonel Bo Hi Pak (who leads CAUSA), are staunch anti-Communists. In 1983, CAUSA was reported to have given APROH \$50,000 to pursue its activities. This raised so much alarm within the Catholic hierarchy that the money had to be re-funded. In more recent times, the New York-based CAUSA maintains an office in Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital and officials visit "Contra" camps.

"You must admit," confessed a Nicaraguan loyal to the revolution, "that when you sum it all up, the Pope actually emerges a pinko-liberal when compared to these cults. Ronald Reagan must therefore watch out. Recent reports that he is seriously considering becoming a Catholic and has met the Pope, whom he admires greatly, may result in his rejection by the Moral Majority. When you actually arrive at the day when the U.S. president is denounced as a pinko-liberal by the Moral Majority and the cults, then you realise the depths to which we have all arrived at."

Well, will these groups succeed in defeating the Nicaraguan people? "No way; not in a blue Moonie," came the quick response — South Syndication Service.

# Land Day marked

(Continued from page 1)

public rallies were held marking the occasion.

Israeli Police Minister Haim Barlev was reported to have issued orders to arrest Arab citizens as preemptive measures in an attempt to control demonstrations in Galilee, Muthalath and the Naqab.

Heads of the Arab municipal councils also participated in the demonstrations which were also in protest against the appropriation of Arab lands by the Israeli authorities.

Mayor of the City of Nazareth Tawfiq Ziyad cut short a visit to Paris where he was invited by the Palestinian-French Friendship Society and returned home to participate in observing the ninth anniversary of "Land Day."

In Amman, senior Jordanian and Palestinian officials hailed the heroic stand and steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the Israeli occupied territories on the anniversary of "Land Day."

A ceremony was held at the Palace of Culture at Al Hussein Sports City during which speeches were delivered to mark the occasion.

Speakers at the rally strongly supported the "struggle of the Palestinian people to defend their land and identity." The speakers included member of the Lower House of Parliament Dr. Fawzi Shaker Daoud Al Tou'emeh, Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eh, Jordanian Women's Federation President Haifa Bashir, exiled Mayor of Halhoul Mohammad Milhem, Jordanian Federation of Trade Unions General Secretary Samir Qardan and Dr. Matar Awad and Mr. Abdulla Jazi.

The speakers strongly condemned Israel's oppressive and arbitrary measures in the occupied Arab territories and its colonial expropriation policy. They urged Arab countries to render more financial and moral support for the people in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories in their struggle to "defend the Arab land and preserve the Palestinian identity."

They said Land Day "reflects the unity of the Palestinians in Israel and the Israeli-occupied territories."

Dr. Awad described the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on joint action towards solving the Palestinian question as a "logical step prompted by the sense of responsibility."

"On these bases, it is very much appreciated, especially in these hard circumstances the Arab Nation is facing," said Dr. Awad.

Dr. Tou'emeh emphasised "the necessity to reinvigorate the honourable Arab values and to change the hollow host human being into a self-determined individual." He said by so doing "Arabs can fight back the Israeli annexation of Palestinian territories."

The speakers paid tribute to those who fell martyrs for the holy land of Palestine and to the Lebanese resistance, which, although the years proved that the "so called invincible Israeli army" could be conquered.

University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Majali also hailed the Palestinian heroes and described their struggle as "a series of steadfastness battles."

Addressing the university's staff, students and workers, Dr. Majali said that "only by education and its technological applications, the Arab Nation can face its enemies and foil their plots."

Mr. Milhem, a member of the PLO Executive Committee and director of the PLO's Department of Occupied Territory Affairs, hailed in his speech the continuous struggle against the Israeli aggression of the Palestinian people living in occupied Palestine.

"Land Day", he said, "has so many significant meanings, because people cannot survive without land and land cannot exist without people."

Referring to the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement, Mr. Mil-

hem said "through this agreement we hope to hold an Arab summit conference in order to solve Arab differences."

Moreover, he added, "we would like to address the Soviet Union through this agreement and tell them that during their meetings with the U.S., the Middle East issue should be on their schedule."

Mr. Milhem highlighted the role that Europe can play in efforts to solve the Palestinian problem and how European countries could influence the U.S. to change its position towards the Palestinian problem and to stop providing Israel with financial and military support.

"In the wake of the very difficult conditions that our people inside the occupied land are living in and the aggressive practices that the Israeli authorities are practising there, I think there is an urgent need for the PLO to re-evaluate its position outside the occupied land," Mr. Milhem said.

He explained that the PLO's position outside the occupied territories has been for a long time subject to "continuous conspiracies" and the main aim of such plots was to "increase the divisions inside the PLO and to create new factions."

Although many PLO factions did not attend PNC session in Amman last November, and cast doubts on our national and Palestinian belonging, we still think that the PNC session in Amman was a strong proof for our Palestinian national unity," Mr. Milhem said.

While we were holding the PNC meetings, the Israeli authorities, based on their Zionist theory, were burning our land and killing our people inside Palestine," he said.

During our ceremony today, the PLO Executive Committee member said, "it is a must that we should remember our people inside the occupied territories and all over the Arab countries, in Palestine and South Lebanon, and the aggression they are facing for their survival which leaves them with no other option but to fight."

Mr. Milhem assured there was nothing proposed at the present for the PLO to "accept or refuse except more and more land occupation and more of people's migration."

"The Palestinian-Jordanian agreement (of Feb. 11) is the main element for Arab unity," he concluded.

Sheikh Sa'eh addressed his speech to all Arab countries and urged them meet and agree on "Land Day" to rescue and liberate the Palestinian land.

"On this occasion the legitimate Palestinian leadership remembers His Majesty King Hussein's great position and stand towards the Palestinian problem and his assurances that the occupied land must be liberated with Jerusalem as the capital since it is the source of our glory and the centre for our civilisation," Sheikh Sa'eh said.

"During this occasion," Sheikh Sa'eh added, "we should also remember that the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement and rapprochement is a natural one since no other country is more careful and is ready to preserve the Palestinian interest more than Jordan."

"The Karamah battle anniversary is the best proof of the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement and coordination in confronting the Israeli aggression in 1968," he said.

Sheikh Sa'eh denounced the U.S. stand towards the Palestinian issue and urged the U.S. administration to work hard in order to return the rights of the Palestinian people including their rights to self-determination and to establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

"The Palestinian legitimate leadership calls on all Arabs and Muslims all over the world to be aware of their responsibilities towards their land, culture and holy places," Sheikh Sa'eh said.

# Short of food? why not blame the hungry?

Are the world's hungry nations responsible for their plight? A new report by the Economist Intelligence Unit argues that overpopulation, high oil prices and misguided government policies in the South are more to blame than high interest rates.

By John Tanner

LONDON — A new report from the London "economist" magazine's research unit absolves the industrial nations of responsibility for the growing number of hungry people on our planet. Instead, it blames the victims and their governments.

In its "World Commodity Outlook, 1985" the prestigious Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) suggests that Western aid agencies are publicising a "faulty diagnosis". The reasons for hunger lie in rapid population increases in developing countries, oil price rises in the 1970s and mistaken government policies in the "Third World."

The EIU report specifically criticises Oxfam, a leading British-based voluntary aid agency, for trying to put all the blame for starvation and famine on the industrial nations. It accuses Oxfam of "spending charitable donations on advertisements vaguely denouncing avarice."

The report regards as illegitimate tactics which play on guilt feelings in ex-colonial countries. Its author, Gerald Roberts,

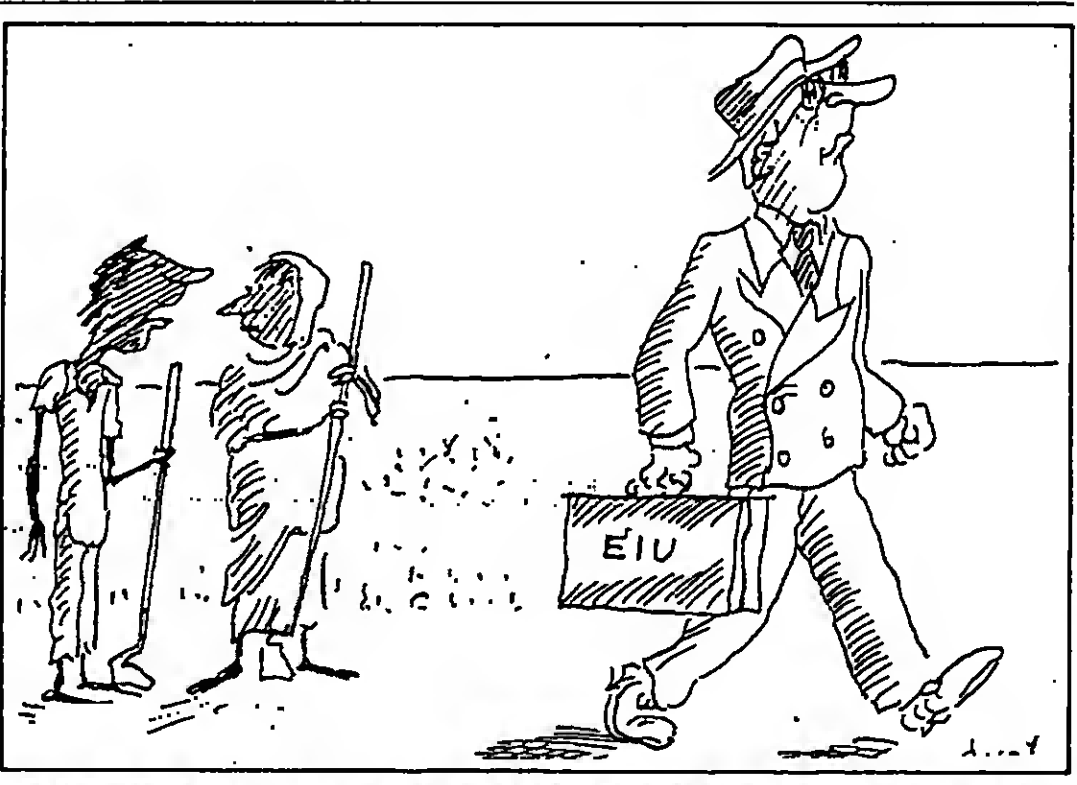
view is similar to that put forward by the World Bank.

In some cases countries are reaching the limit of intensive land development. Mr. Roberts cites a statement by the Indian minister of agriculture to show that while only another 10 per cent expansion of irrigated area is possible in India, population is growing at an annual rate of 3.4 per cent.

Oxfam and others have argued that agri-business, cash-cropping, and pressure to export food to industrial countries have worsened the food situation for the rural poor in many parts of the "Third World."

The EIU believes that this is an over-simplification. It notes that most of the sugar and soya oil exported by developing countries goes to other "Third World" states. Small farmers who grow cash-crops exported through government agencies often receive an unfairly low fraction of the market price for these crops, robbing them of money to buy food and other goods. And if Brazil is using land which could grow food to grow sugar cane for fuel alcohol, that is more the fault of OPEC than of the industrial nations.

The report dismisses the proposition that high interest rates and the debt crisis are responsible for hunger in the "South". The high level of borrowing in dev-



'The gentleman says all we have to do is take a reliable financial journal and keep a sharp eye on commodities futures'

veloping countries is a direct result of the 15-fold increase in oil prices which the oil-rich OPEC states imposed on their fellow developing countries in 1972, claims Mr. Roberts.

Higher oil prices also had the effect of "driving the poor from kerosene back to firewood", he maintains. He does not refer to mounting evidence that the major cause of most deforestation is land clearance for agricultural and development projects.

The Economist Intelligence Unit's prescription for avoiding

hunger is to allow farmers to grow what makes most commercial sense without government interference. Its contention, like that of the World Bank, is that "poor returns in the countryside and cheap food availability in the towns" is a recipe for disaster.

The EIU report does not discuss the difficulties which "Third World" governments attempting to adopt its recommendations may face. Ignoring the legacy of colonialism in Africa, it fails to consider the powerful influence of transnational companies in whose

interest the present system works.

The British-based Lonrho corporation, the example, is the largest commercial food producer in Africa. Its 1984 annual turnover was \$2,248 billion. Zimbabwe, one of the richer African countries in which Lonrho has extensive agricultural and mining interests, had a gross domestic product in 1981 of \$2.7 billion. Such figures lend support to Oxfam's argument that "the poor could grow the food they need if we could only get the system off their backs" — Earthscan feature.

# Canadian centre for torture victims faces difficulties

By Charles Campbell  
Associated Press

TORONTO — A Canadian centre set up to aid torture victims has had trouble getting its programmes off the ground, in part because of a continuing dispute over what it really ought to be doing.

Some people who survive torture need intense psychiatric and medical treatment. For others, the best prescription may simply be tender, loving care. Experts disagree over which should be the centre's main job.

The centre for the investigation and prevention of torture is "in a moment of transition," says its chairman, Dr. Federico Alodi, an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Toronto medical school.

"We really have to tidy up the operation, to have our own office, to have a person staffing it," Alodi said in a telephone interview.

The centre is the only one of its kind in North America. In Copenhagen, a centre with its own staff doctors provides medical treatment to torture victims and the U.S. state of Minnesota is looking into building one.

From its inception in October 1983, the Toronto Centre was intended to coordinate services, collect data and refer torture victims to doctors and other professionals — not create an institution where survivors would be admitted for treatment. It has been working from space shared with the local office of Amnesty International.

In its first year, the centre reported making contact with 202

torture survivors, interviewing them, making referrals, sometimes arranging group sessions.

"Not all people who have been tortured need to be treated," said Dr. Philip Berger, a director of the centre. "What they need is people willing and accessible to talk to if they need someone to talk to."

As Toronto has welcomed increasing numbers of political refugees, it has become an important focus of medical treatment for torture. About 30 doctors in the city deal frequently with torture victims, and several are critical of the centre's approach.

"It is sort of a ghost centre which does not provide treatment," Dr. Raul Berdichevsky, a Chilean-born psychiatrist, said in an interview in his Toronto office.

"What torture victims found at the end of the tunnel is a guy with a questionnaire. The last thing a torture victim needs is research," he said.

"Only research without a clear mandate for treatment is a waste of time and money. It creates false expectations," said Dr. Luis Fornazzari, a neurologist.

"You cannot make the diagnosis, ask the patient to tell the atrocities, and then say thank you very much," Dr. Fornazzari said. "Getting the information and not giving the treatment is not right."

Another psychiatrist, Dr. Marlene Freire, described the centre as "very frustrating to deal with." Dr. Alodi said the centre hopes to establish a permanent, since soon, get better organised and seek more funding, but be def-

ended its decision not to focus on medical treatment.

"People who have been tortured don't want to be reminded of it, they don't want to be separated, they don't want to be stigmatised," he said.

"Rather than segregating them, they should be seen in the structure already available," he said.

The Toronto Centre saw torture victims from 30 countries in its first year, but more than half came from Afghanistan, Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Uganda and Uruguay.

Genevieve Cowgill, a director of the centre and its only full-time staff member, said the list reflects the pattern of refugee flow into Canada — with the most recent influx being minority Tamils fleeing violence in Sri Lanka.

"We just don't have the resources to help 1,000 Tamils," she said in an interview. "We could spend all our time with the Salvadorans."

Besides the referrals, the centre also has trained about 20 vol-

unteers to help the torture survivors find jobs, homes and whatever legal assistance they might need, she said.

It has also organised several "community consultations" between doctors and groups of refugees.

Dr. Berger said those sessions "were very important. They told us what their needs were, and what their perceptions are."

Ms. Cowgill said the centre's administrative budget was about 100,000 Canadian dollars — roughly \$75,000. She said funds come from private donations, government contracts and a grant from the United Nations Fund for Torture Victims.

But Dr. Alodi, the chairman, said actual spending was 9,500 Canadian dollars (\$7,000). He said Ms. Cowgill, while still on the board of directors, had been relieved of the title of executive director as part of the recent reorganisation, did not have authority to speak for the centre and should not have agreed to be interviewed.

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# Everton reaches top of English League

LONDON (R) — Kevin Richardson struck twice in three minutes to earn Everton their first win at Southampton in 15 years as the enthralling race for the English League Soccer Championship took an unexpected twist Saturday.

Richardson's goals early in the second half were enough to ensure leaders Everton a 2-1 win and carry them three points clear at the top as Tottenham, who began the day second on goal difference, crashed to a shock 2-0 defeat at home against Aston Villa.

Everton's win extended their unbeaten run to 17 matches and took them to 63 points from 30 matches. The two runaway leaders clash in a crucial league match at Tottenham's White Hart Lane home on Wednesday.

The Londoners, chasing their first title since 1960, were without seven first team regulars and struggled to find their best form against Villa. A goal in each half, from Paul Rideout — his 13th of the season — and Mark Walters, secured only Villa's second win in their last six matches.

Everton, who also have a game in hand over Spurs, had no such problems at Southampton as England goalkeeper Peter Shilton and the woodwork denied them several early goals.

But defensive errors by Southampton's insecure back four allowed Richardson to plunder the first goal three minutes after half-time. The talented midfielder

grabbed the second in the 51st minute to ensure Southampton's first home defeat this year.

England midfielder David Armstrong squandered a golden opportunity to pull a goal back when his 59th minute penalty was saved by Everton goalkeeper Neville Southall. But Southampton's former Scottish international striker Joe Jordan grabbed an injury time consolation goal.

Tottenham's reshuffled defence was continually exploited by Villa and Rideout hit the first after 22 minutes after Colin Gibson sprung their offside trap with a fine through-ball.

Tottenham rarely tested 21-year-old Villa goalkeeper Kevin Poole, making his league debut in the match, and Walters scored a splendid second 16 minutes from time to secure the points.

Manchester United, who play Liverpool Sunday, remain third on 56 points with Arsenal staying fourth on 52 points despite their

2-0 defeat at bottom club Stoke City.

Tony Cottee ended relegation-threatened West Ham's barren scoring run at Nottingham Forest and put his side on the road to a vital victory.

Cottee's 20th minute effort was his side's first goal at Forest in 16 years — England's 1966 World Cup final hat-trick hero Geoff Hurst was the last to score there in March, 1969 — but Steve Hodge levelled 10 minutes into the second half.

West Ham made sure of the points when Paul Goddard netted their winner 15 minutes from time.

Stoke clinched their third win of the season with second half goals from Ian Painter and Paul Dyson securing their 2-0 win over Arsenal.

Lee Chapman scored twice as Sheffield Wednesday cruised to a 4-2 win over Newcastle to move into sixth place in the table.

Veteran striker Mike Channon also scored twice as League Cup winners Norwich beat Coventry 2-1 while Queen's Park Rangers' striker Mike Fillery scored both goals in his side's 2-0 triumph over fellow-strugglers Watford.

## S. Korean retains IBF title

SEOUL (R) — Kim Chi-Won of South Korea retained his International Boxing Federation (IBF) junior-featherweight championship with a unanimous points verdict over Colombian Ruben "Hurricane" Palacio at Suwon, south of Seoul, Saturday.

Kim, 26, was making his first defence of the title he won from compatriot Suh Song-In by a knockout in January.

All three judges gave the bout to the champion — Colombia's Aguilera Uriel 146-143, Korean Kim Kwang-Su 147-142 and Japanese Norio Higasa 149-142.

Palacio, 23, ranked sixth by the IBF, was knocked down twice in the ninth round by chopping left hooks to the face and took a mandatory count of eight each time.

The champion took control of the 15-round fight from the start with effective combinations of straight punches and hooks to the head and body.

Kim improved his record to 13 victories, four inside the distance, against two defeats. It was the third defeat of Palacio's professional career.

## Olivo takes WBA junior flyweight crown

MIAMI (R) — Challenger Joey Olivo became the first American ever to win the World Boxing Association (WBA) junior flyweight crown by scoring a unanimous decision Saturday night over Francisco Quiroz of the Dominican Republic in a 15-round bout here.

Olivo, an eight-year professional whose record improved to 35-4, combined a knockdown of Quiroz in the fifth round with elusive dancing in the latter rounds to capture the crown.

"Boxing is in my blood, I guess," said the 27-year-old Olivo, who failed in a bid for the World Boxing Council's (WBC) version of the title in 1981 when his bout with Hilario Zapata of Panama was stopped in the 14th round.

"There have been times when I've gotten very, very frustrated and was going to quit. But I stuck with it," he said.

## Top three seeds win \$325,000 Florida Classic Tennis semifinals

FORT MYERS, Florida (R) — Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl and Andres Gomez, the top three seeds, gained the semifinals of the \$325,000 Florida Classic Tennis Tournament here with victories Friday.

Connors beat fellow American Johan Kriek 6-3, 6-2. In the semifinals, Connors will face unseeded Sammy Giammalva, who beat eighth-seeded fellow American Scott Davis 6-4, 6-2.

Lendl beat American Brad Gilbert 6-4, 6-2 and will face Gomez. The Ecuadorian beat American Eliot Teltscher 7-5, 6-0.

Kriek broke Connors' service

twice in the first set to take leads of 2-0 and 3-1, but each time Connors immediately broke back.

In the ninth game, the world number two broke the South African-born Kriek for a third time to win the set. He had little trouble with Kriek in the second set.

Connors said: "He played well with the lead but I kept a few balls in play, let him make a few mistakes and I eventually won the first set."

"I didn't really give him the opportunity to get into a rhythm where he was ahead and that way I put a little extra pressure on."

Connors added. After his match with the third-ranked Lendl, Gilbert said the Czechoslovak had worn him down.

"Ivan was intensely aggressive from the baseline," Gilbert said. "He is like a body puncher, and then he starts booming that serve. He just wore me down."

Gomez and Teltscher traded service breaks in their first set and Gomez won in the 12th game on a second service break.

In the second set, Gomez stayed on the baseline while Teltscher tried repeatedly and unsuccessfully to rush the net.

## Unseeded Swiss player reaches \$50,000 women's tennis semifinals

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida (R) — Unseeded Petra Delhees-Jauch of Switzerland Friday ousted seventh-seeded Beth Herr of the U.S. to reach the semi-finals of the \$50,000 Challenge Round Women's Tennis Tournament here.

Third-seeded Kathy Horvath of the U.S., sixth-seeded Terry Phelps of the U.S. and unseeded Raffaella Reggi of Italy also gained the semi-finals with victories Friday.

The winner here will advance into a playoff to complete a four-player field in next weekend's \$275,000 Challenge Cup. American Chris Evert Lloyd, Czechoslovak Hana Mandlikova and American Pam Shriver have the first three places.

Still seeking her first tournament victory on the tour, the 26-year-old Delhees-Jauch scored six service breaks and went to the net often in beating Herr 6-3, 6-4.

"I'm playing well now and aim

to improve my ranking, which is number 90," said Delhees-Jauch, who earlier eliminated fourth-seeded Camille Benjamin of the U.S.

"It would be nice to win this tournament and get to play Caroline Bassett again, but that is so far away," she said.

The winner here will play Bassett for the fourth spot in the Challenge Cup field. The Canadian teenager beat Delhees-Jauch in the U.S. Open round of 16 last September.

## Bey ordered to explain drug traces

LAS VEGAS (R) — The Nevada State Athletic Commission (NSAC) Friday ordered boxer David Bey to explain why his urine showed traces of a drug after his loss in a title fight with heavyweight champion Larry Holmes two weeks ago.

A urinalysis following the March 15 bout found traces of acetaminophen, a drug "similar to aspirin and possibly very, very minor," the NSAC said.

In a letter sent Friday the commission gave Bey 30 days to explain the test results.

## Heavy snow hits Scottish soccer programme

LONDON (R) — An unusually heavy overnight snowfall has severely hit the Scottish League soccer programme and caused widespread postponements.

Fixtures postponed by the bad weather include the traditional "derby" matches between Celtic and Rangers in Glasgow and Hearts and Hibernian in Edinburgh.

But Scottish champions Aberdeen hope their fixture against Dundee United will still be played.

## Kuwait sacks coach, capping controversial season

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, its national soccer team unable to find the form that carried it to the 1982 World Cup finals, has sacked its Brazilian coach after only one qualifying match for the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

The dismissal of Antonio Lopes Dos Santos, who became coach in mid-1983, caps a string of poor international results and a controversial local season in the tiny, oil-rich Gulf state, which in its football heyday was dubbed "Little Brazil".

Referees went on strike last January over spectator and player violence, causing a brief suspension of local matches.

Only weeks earlier, the president of the Kuwait Football Association (KFA), a member of the royal family, quit amid an up-

per over alleged financial improprieties within the KFA.

But Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed Al Sabah changed his mind shortly afterwards saying not all Kuwaiti sportsmen accepted the move.

Lopes, who coached Brazil's Vasco de Gama to a national championship in 1982, joins a growing list of his compatriots who have fallen victim to the increasingly competitive world of Gulf football — Oman, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain have also sacked Brazilian coaches in the past 10 months.

He lost his job after lowly Syria humbled Kuwait 1-0 last Saturday in Damascus, in the opening match of a World Cup Asia Group Two tie.

He had given Kuwaiti fans, who

liked to model themselves on Brazilian spectators, dancing and swaying on the terraces to the beat of drums, little to enthuse about lately.

Kuwait failed to reach the Los Angeles olympics last year, after qualifying for Moscow in 1980, and last December were toppled as Asian champions by neighbouring Saudi Arabia.

"I don't see any possibility of failure... we will win," Lopes had confidently predicted of his team's chances in of retaining the Asia Cup. They became the first Arab nation to win the trophy in 1980, but in Singapore last year managed only third place.

Lopes, replaced by Brazilian colleague Pereira Priar Miguel who was coach to Kuwait's national junior squad, was axed despite inferences by Gulf Arab states that skills and training were perhaps not the key to results in Singapore.

Prince Faisal Bin Fahd, the head of Saudi Arabia's youth Welfare Department, said last week that his country, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates planned to boycott any future soccer tournaments in Singapore after what they considered to be "corruption" at last year's Asia Cup.

He referred to bribes aimed at "fixing" results, and also an anti-Arab campaign in the Singapore media.

An earlier tournament in Singapore also recently caused a fuss in Kuwait, figuring among what the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour called "financial improprieties" in the KFA's accounts for the financial year to last October 31.

Some 62,260 dinars (\$150,000) were charged to players' allowances for a trip to Singapore during that year, which the ministry objected to as "too big a sum".

In a letter reproduced by the Arabic daily Al-Anbaa last January the ministry told the KFA its accounts contained "financial improprieties" to the overall tune of 1.91 million dinars (\$4.5 million).

Among these were expenses of 380,000 dinars (\$1.0 million) and the cost of 40 return tickets to Rio De Janeiro for a training camp in Brazil and a domestic "friendship tournament" which were never held, it said. A loan to an Arab sports daily and purchases of gifts and ceremonial Arab garb were also improperly accounted for, it said.

The KFA president resigned in protest at the criticism, and sent blank cheques to two Kuwaiti dailies made out to the ministry for it to draw from his personal account whatever sum it deemed the KFA had spent improperly.

But two weeks later, signalling the two sides apparently had resolved their differences, he withdrew his resignation.

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## Argentina announces sweeping reforms

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentine Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille has announced sweeping financial reforms aimed at eliminating black markets for credit and foreign currency.

Mr. Sourrouille told a news conference Friday night the measures "would tend to increase the central bank's control over the money and credit circuits."

The measures followed a crackdown by the central bank and police on black market operations during the day. The black market dollar exchange rate was unquoted after finishing Friday 35 per cent above the official rate.

Mr. Sourrouille said black markets had been responsible for an important amount of speculation in Argentina's financial system, which is strained by an inflation

rate raging at more than 800 per cent a year.

He also announced increases of 26 per cent in public tariffs, 35 per cent in petrol prices and a two per cent hike in interest rates to 24 per cent a month for borrowers.

The measures were announced more than a month after Mr. Sourrouille replaced former economy minister Mr. Bernardo Grinspun.

Mr. Sourrouille said that this week he would announce the details of an anti-inflation programme designed to convince creditors and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to release new funds to Argentina so that it can service its \$4.8 billion foreign debt.

The IMF suspended the disbursement of the first tranche of a \$1.42 billion standby loan due to

inflation, which Argentina had pledged to reduce to a 300 per cent annual level by the end of September.

The General Labour Confederation (CGT) declared a state of alert prior to the announcement of the programme, saying the government had yielded to the IMF policy "of paying the debt with the hunger of the people."

The state of alert is a strike threat. The CGT is the nation's main labour grouping, including rank and file from the opposition Peronist Party.

Mr. Sourrouille also announced tax reforms. He said they were designed to improve tax collection, spread the tax burden more equally among Argentines and to lessen consumer taxes.

## World bankers to discuss Latin American debt

Meanwhile, some 500 bankers from around the world will meet in Panama City next month to discuss Latin America's foreign debt problem, a spokesman for the Panama Banking Association said.

The spokesman said the meeting of representatives of major international banks set for April 17-19 would include discussion of ways of dealing with Latin America's \$360 billion debt.

Association President Rafael Arofenena said the meeting would also help strengthen the image of Panama, where some 125 banks operate, as international banking centre.

## Good news fails to stop dollar slide

NEW YORK (R) — Sentiment against the U.S. dollar has become so strong that even good news about the American economy has failed to stop it falling sharply.

The dollar closed in New York Friday at 3.0575 West German marks, compared with its close in New York on Thursday at 3.1200 marks. The British pound strengthened to \$1.2470 from Thursday's New York close of \$1.2270.

The Japanese yen improved to 250.40 to the dollar from Thursday's closing of 253.10.

The dollar fell steadily through the day, with only a brief pause on news from Washington that the U.S. index of leading indicators rose 0.7 per cent in February.

Dealers said the better-than-expected economic news had only a minor, passing effect in arresting the slide which has cost the dollar almost 10 per cent of its value against the mark in about two weeks, dealers said.

Dealers had differing opinions about how long the dollar's decline might last.

"At this point it would take something really major to reverse the negative sentiment," said Mr. Earl Johnson of Harris Bankcorp.

"And I see nothing positive in the next few weeks."

Another trader said: "Given that interest rates probably won't go higher and the economy isn't that strong, the dollar may well go lower."

But all agreed the dollar is basically sound and will prove to be an attractive haven for foreign investors again within the near future.

"The flow of funds into this country may abate for a while but I doubt a massive outflow of dollars," said one. "A slightly lower dollar may be in everybody's best interest."

The last time the dollar reached its current levels was in late 1984. Since then, the dollar had moved up almost without interruption.

"Everyone needs dollars," said one dealer. "But at what level they are willing to buy those dollars is a different thing."

## Jardines loses \$118m in '84

HONG KONG (R) — Jardine Matheson, one of the oldest and largest British trading companies in Hong Kong, Friday announced huge losses for 1984 due mainly to the depressed world shipping market.

Jardines lost 918 million Hong Kong dollars (\$118 million) last year compared with a profit of 351 million Hong Kong dollars (\$45 million) in 1983. It made a small profit on its operations, but write-downs on the value of its ships produced the loss.

Exactly a year ago, Jardines stunned Hong Kong by announcing it had formed a new controlling company in Bermuda because of political uncertainties in the British territory which is due to revert to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.

## EC tries to reassure Mediterranean nations

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) Saturday assured Mediterranean countries that Spanish and Portuguese membership would not squeeze them out of their biggest market, but did not give the firm guarantees they wanted.

In a statement at a Community summit here, the group's foreign ministers pledged to find a mutually acceptable solution allowing North African and Middle Eastern states to maintain exports after Iberian entry next year.

The statement, issued two days after agreement was reached on Iberian membership, said Community states were aware of the importance of the Mediterranean basin and committed to strengthening relations with the countries in it.

But diplomats said the statement, couched in general terms, did not give the detailed guarantees on export levels asked for by countries such as Israel, Morocco and Tunisia.

These three have often expressed concern that the entry of two more southern European states into the Community could hit traditional exports of citrus fruits, tomatoes, olive oil and wine from North Africa, Israel and Cyprus.

The Community is the major trading partner for many of these countries, most of whose exports are farm products competing directly with Spanish and Portuguese produce.

During separate visits to Brussels this month Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid Essebsi and Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir demanded a firm commitment from Brussels allowing them to maintain export levels after enlargement.

"We want from the European Community guarantees" and a clear decision which would ensure that our exports would not suffer as a result of the Community's enlargement," Mr. Shamir said.

Although these guarantees were not given Saturday, diplomats said there were certain elements in the package which could help calm the fears of the Mediterranean countries.

In particular, the Community committed itself to consider Algerian requests to help the countries of the region move towards agricultural self-sufficiency.

Farmers express doubt

Meanwhile, governments have welcomed an agreement to admit Spain and Portugal to the EC but farmers have expressed reservations.

Portuguese Foreign Minister Jaime Gama said the deal, struck after eight-year negotiations, was a triumph for his country.

He told reporters a threat by Greece to veto Iberian entry unless the Community adopted a financial aid programme for Mediterranean farmers made no sense.

There was no contradiction between enlargement and the Greek demand, he said.

But Portuguese farmers said they had serious reservations about their entry to the Com-

munity.

"It will have a negative impact on Portuguese agriculture because we are not prepared to compete with the agricultural structure of the Community nations," said Mr. Paulo Martins, a leader of Portugal's National Agricultural Federation.

The Community's expansion was hailed as a milestone by the French government and as a step towards a "United States of Europe" by Bonn. But farmers in both countries expressed doubts.

Farmers say they are worried about the effect of competition from cheaper dairy and cattle produce from the two new members.

Producers of olives and grapes, both grown in Spain and Portugal, fear they may be given lower production quotas.

The West German farmers association said the enlargement decision was of historic importance but it raised more questions about Community agricultural policy than it answered.

"It is hard enough to get sensible decisions in a Community of 10. It will be even harder to reach common accord in a Community of 12," the association said.

A leading member of the Portuguese Communist Party, Mr. Joaquim Miranda, said membership would have serious consequences for the country's agriculture, fishing and small businesses.

"The government has always approached the question of membership as a political question and never seriously from the economic point of view," he said.

Italy's Christian Democrats, part of the country's coalition government, said Spanish and Portuguese entry "represents a fundamental new stage in the structure of Europe."

But in a document on Community policy issued Friday they said the government "must also take account of the economic effects this will have on the agricultural sector."

Gonzalez sees challenge

In Madrid Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said Friday Spanish membership of the EC was a challenge to modernise the country.

In a televised statement Mr. Gonzalez said: "I am certain our workers, businessmen... and entire society will be able to meet this challenge."

He said the agreement was a transcendental and irreversible step which overcame Spain's isolation from the rest of Europe.

"It is the culmination of the struggle of millions of Spaniards who identify liberty and democracy with integration into Europe," he said.

His statement came after the evening news which devoted almost

its entire half-hour programme to the EC, including a classroom explanation of what membership would mean for Spain.

Mr. Gonzalez said Europe would be enriched by Spanish membership and Spain would benefit from being in Europe.

"Spain has a Latin American dimension. We have a fraternal relationship with 300 million Spanish speakers and Europe will benefit from that," he said.

Mr. Gonzalez added that Spanish membership would bring Europe closer to North Africa and the Arab World and give the continent the stimulus of a new and youthful democracy.

"This means the beginning of a new era," he said. "It means the integration and participation in a common destiny."

Mr. Gonzalez said Spain would meet its obligation to give future generations a country with a higher level of education, culture and economic efficiency and a greater capacity for solidarity.

"We must and we can achieve a Spain at the head of those European countries that march towards unity to offer the world a common destiny," he said.

The agreement was seen as a triumph for Mr. Gonzalez, 43, that would boost his chances of persuading Spaniards to opt for continued membership of NATO.

The agreement realised a Spanish dream to symbolically break down the Pyrenees mountain barrier separating the Iberian peninsula from the rest of Europe.

All major parties welcomed the agreement.

"Now we can get rid of our inferiority complex... we can hold our heads up now," said Foreign Minister Fernando Moran.

Spain has been forced to accept tough terms for a transition period that will last until at least 1995.

The country's high protective trade barriers will fall rapidly while access to tariff-free markets for its competitive agricultural exports will be slowed.

Value Added Tax (VAT) is expected to add between two and four points to consumer prices currently growing at an annual rate of 9.7 per cent.

Both industrial and farming organisations voiced concern at the cost of the transition and the communist-controlled Workers' Commissions Union Confederation said Spain was joining the "Europe of the merchants and not the Europe of the people."

Farmers said they were worried about the impact of cheaper dairy and cattle produce.

Agriculture Minister Carlos Romero conceded that some sectors would be hurt but he said the balance would favour Spain. "Our farmers are prepared for integration," he said.

Owners of Spain's huge fishing armada, which will increase the Community fleet by 70 per cent, also feared that they would suffer from the stiff transition terms which call for a significant reduction in their catches and tonnage.

## Decline in tea prices worries Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AP) — A sharp decline in tea prices is threatening government revenue, and Sri Lanka's finance minister has called for urgent measures to control spending, the finance ministry said Saturday.

A finance ministry statement said the minister, Mr. Romie De Mel, had reported to the cabinet that government revenues may be down by about 1.5 billion rupees (\$60 million) and stressed the need for controlling the budget deficit projected at 8 per cent of gross domestic product in 1985.

The ministry said Mr. De Mel told his cabinet colleagues that it was important to manage the country's economy well in view of political instability and violence in the northern and eastern provinces, which could discourage foreign donors.

"Sri Lanka has been able to obtain foreign aid without much diminution in 1983 and 1984 because donor countries were convinced that Sri Lanka had taken meaningful steps towards sound economic and financial management," the statement said.

"The cabinet agreed it was essential to continue to maintain strict financial discipline particularly in the context of lower tea prices," it added.

Mr. De Mel also said that Sri

Lanka's tea production increased 20 per cent in 1984, rubber production was static and coconut and rice production "did not come up to expectation" due to drought and dislocation in the northern and eastern provinces, where Tamil guerrillas are seeking a separate Tamil state.

Mr. De Mel said tourism had declined by about 25 per cent but proposals for foreign investment are coming in at the rate of about 10 projects a month. Tourism and foreign investment have been seriously hurt by the Tamil rebellion in the north.

It was agreed that no ministry will present supplementary budget estimates in 1985 except for expenditures connected with defence and national security.

Mr. De Mel told a group of ambassadors from aid-giving countries Thursday that Sri Lanka's rate of inflation for the 12 months ending in February was less than one per cent, according to a central bank report.

The speech implied that Mr. De Mel had not altogether accepted

the central bank computation. "I am glad if inflation has been brought down to zero, but my target for this year was 6-7 per cent."

Sri Lanka's inflation went up to 35 per cent in 1980 and was brought down to 10 per cent at the end of 1984, the minister said.

Mr. De Mel noted that in the first quarter of 1984 agricultural production in all sectors had increased. He also said that manufacturing had grown 12 per cent and services 6 per cent in 1984.

The minister also announced that the government was formulating a new industrial strategy aiming for industrial growth of 12-16 per cent a year.

"For this there are certain prerequisites — a realistic exchange rate, a sensible tariff policy, identification of primary sectors and sensible incentives to these sectors. We are in the process of doing all these things and we look forward to the continued assistance, sympathy and understanding of the aid group to achieve these targets," he said.

## Creditors give UPI 90-day moratorium

NEW YORK (Agencies) — United Press International (UPI), the international news agency, has been given a 90-day grace period by creditors to whom it owes millions of dollars.

The debt moratorium was announced Friday by a lawyer for the creditors after daylong meetings between representatives of 10 major creditors and UPI.

The meetings took place in the offices of American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT), which is owed more than \$6 million in unpaid communication bills.

Other creditors represented included American Express, RCA Corporation, Electronics Systems Inc and Gemstar Real Electronics Company.

UPI news reports have put the debt around \$17 million. Sources among the creditors have told Reuters the agency's liabilities total \$45 million.

Mr. Jules Teitelbaum, a lawyer for the creditors, said debt negotiations would continue during

the moratorium. He declined to give any details and would not answer questions on whether all the creditors supported the moratorium.

Representatives of the creditor companies also declined comment, but UPI chairman Mr. Luis Nogales hailed the moratorium as "extremely supportive" and said: "It should give sufficient time to do what we have to do."

Mr. Nogales said that after the creditors met for two hours, UPI representatives joined them and were questioned for three hours about the finances of the 78-year old news agency.

Mr. Nogales said another creditors' meeting would be held in two weeks, but he declined to give details of plans UPI had outlined to the creditors.

In early March, UPI asked creditors to agree to a refinancing plan in which they would receive stock in the agency in exchange for forgiveness of debt.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUN. MARCH 31, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will have very good judgment this last day of the month to decide what changes and new arrangements you wish to make that will add to your prestige.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A bigwig you know could help you substantially so do not hesitate to ask for favors you need.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study into whatever will make your home run more smoothly and plan to buy the right mechanisms. Invite guests in for the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A good day to contact regular allies and to discuss your plans for the future and gain their cooperation for them.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You want to do some investing, but talk it over with a close friend. Get as much data from experts as you can.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Communicating well so that you can gain your finest wishes is wise now. Get together with good friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Sit in the quiet of your study and consider your finest ambitions and how best you can gain them. Show you are devoted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Contact that good friend who can tell you what is best to do in order to gain your finest aims. Plan the future well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Contact the most prominent person you know who can assist you most with your career, and gain support you need.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you contact an expert in your field of endeavor, you can make far greater progress in the near future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A talk with a clever business person can bring you good ideas how to become more prosperous in the days ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Being with regular allies can open new doors of opportunity for you and them by exchanging good ideas.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Apply more thought and effort, and you can make your environment more charming and healthfully clean.

## THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten

ACROSS

1 Old clothes

5 Arab. Indian

8 Stand fast

14 Blue-pencil

15 Waller items

16 Granada

17 Wild pig

18 Money in Milan

19 — bleat

20 Baseball

21 Inventor

22 Intermediate

24 Always to

25 poets

26 Snoop

28 Spaniards and

Italiane

30 Consent

34 Trader; abbr.

35 Paper quantity

37 Disparate

38 mores

41 Pedestal part

42 Used to be

43 Mountain

44 Teutened

45 Pouch

46 Ancient

48 Crated

54 "I didn't hear

nothing," e.g.

Handbag

59 Swelling

60 Arabian Sea

61 Goldbrick

62 Knevel

63 Optical glass

64 Requirements

65 Art style

66 Purts del —

DOWN

1 Near East

2 Sun-dried brick

3 Huge

4 Scatter about

5 Container

6 Like some

salads

7 Liama's land

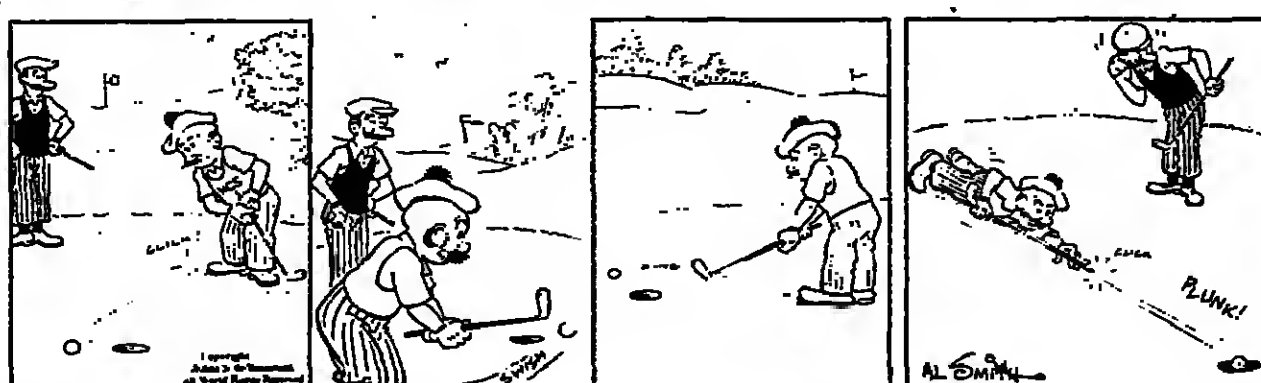
8 Sp. queen

9 Declare

## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF By Harris



"Our outgo is 15 percent higher than our income... and that's the GOOD news!"

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CLOIG

ZEBAL

INCUBA

DANCEN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: TOPAZ CYCLE MOROSE TRUANT

Answer: What the losing team was when there was an upset in the ballgame—UPSET



# Nitze: U.S. takes seriously European Star Wars doubts

LONDON (Agencies) — The United States takes seriously West European doubts about its research programme into space-based missile defences, President Ronald Reagan's chief arms control adviser, Paul Nitze, has said.

"There are doubts after this programme in every country," Mr. Nitze said in an interview with Britain's Channel 4 Television Network.

"But in democracies that is true of any change as significant as this one might be in our general approach to our overall strategy... I would be surprised if there were not serious debate."

Asked if Washington's invitation to 18 allied nations to take part in the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) research programme was "a bribe for the Europeans to shut up," Mr. Nitze replied:

"No... we think this would be much more soundly done if it were done by the West as a whole."

Mr. Nitze maintained that Soviet opposition to the SDI dubbed Star Wars, was based on Moscow's fear of losing what he said was a current monopoly of defensive weapons — and losing it to a U.S. system which could turn out to be superior.

"They are concerned that we will then not only have a defence of our own, but might have a better one," Mr. Nitze said of Soviet opposition to the U.S. programme and its effect on current

superpower arms control talks in Geneva.

"We are prepared to discuss with the Soviet Union how one can work these things out so that both sides would introduce defences concurrently and there wouldn't be any danger of one side or the other gaining superiority in the defensive field."

President Reagan Friday defended his Star Wars anti-missile research programme as a moral option that would increase the incentive for success in U.S.-Soviet arms talks.

He also said the programme did not violate existing arms pacts, particularly the 1972 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty.

"This is not and never should be misconstrued as just another method of protecting missile silos," he told a National Space Club luncheon.

Mr. Reagan said that with SDI he sought "to render obsolete the balance of terror — or mutual assured destruction (MAD) — and replace it with a system incapable of initiating armed conflict or causing mass destruction."

"What could be more moral than a system designed to save

lives rather than avenge them?" he asked.

Mr. Reagan said SDI research was aimed at protecting both the United States and its allies. He pledged to consult and work with U.S. allies, noting that Washington had extended invitations to them to join the research effort.

Australia has rejected the invitation, Canada has expressed reservations, and West German politicians have voiced annoyance at a 60-day deadline for acceptance.

Mr. Reagan said Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger would be co-ordinating "bilateral programmes of cooperation."

"Far from being a violation of existing arms agreements, once our adversaries fully understand the goal of our research programme, it will add new incentives to both sides in Geneva to actually reduce the number of nuclear weapons threatening mankind," he said.

New Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has said that Washington's efforts to enlist West European participation in SDI was evidence of U.S. intent to use the Geneva talks as a "screen" for pushing through its military programme.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Mr. Gorbachev's comments were not unexpected.

"The Soviet rhetoric is used to mask the pace of the Soviet (arms) buildup itself," he said.

Mr. Reagan said developing the means to intercept ballistic missiles soon after launching would bring about a fundamental change in strategic assumptions, making missiles less effective and more negotiable.

West German Defence Minister Manfred Woerner on Friday said his government is prepared to undertake research for President Ronald Reagan's SDI as long as it has a fair say in deciding political and strategic questions in developing the system.

"This is not solely a technological problem," Mr. Woerner said in a prepared speech to a meeting in Dallas, Texas, American Council on Germany, a group that includes U.S. and German officials.

"We do not want our participation confined to the technological field," Mr. Woerner added.

He said it is important that a political and strategic dialogue be maintained between the United States and its allies on all questions of common security.

Horst Ehnke, deputy leader of the opposition Social Democrats in the Bundestag, told the group he agreed there is no way to stop Star Wars research because verification is impossible.

But, he said, the Western allies should not depend on the Strategic Defence Initiative.

**RIOT TARGET:** The office of Air France in Khartoum which was attacked during three days riots in Sudan (AP wirephoto)

## Child killed in S. African bomb attack

UITENHAGE, South Africa (R) — A four-year-old black South African boy died Saturday when a crowd petrol bombed his home in a new outbreak of rioting that has claimed over 300 lives in the past year, police said.

The boy's mother escaped from their house in a township at the Indian Ocean town of Port Elizabeth in the troubled eastern Cape after the attack, but he died in the flames, a spokesman said.

Residents said the mother worked for a local councillor. Councilors, their relatives and staff have become favourite targets for rioters who see them as stooges for the white-minority government.

In other overnight unrest, police fired shotguns, rubber bullets and teargas at crowds in a large number of eastern Cape townships. Houses were set on fire

and a number of schools, houses and police vehicles were damaged by stone-throwing crowds.

The government has blamed the banned African National Congress (ANC) for fomenting the unrest and said it has supporters in the main political group opposing apartheid racial segregation policies, the United Democratic Front (UDF).

On Friday the government banned the UDF and other groups, including UDF affiliates, from holding meetings for three months in areas most affected by rioting.

"People are going to devise ways of meeting even if it means they must meet underground," one affiliate leader said.

In Durban, a date was set Friday for South Africa's biggest treason trial for a quarter of a century. The case against 16 UDF leaders will

open on May 20.

The 16 have so far been refused bail, which lawyers say means they could spend up to two years in jail whether they are found guilty or not.

On Friday night police in the nominally independent tribal homeland of Ciskei confirmed they had detained 12 UDF members.

South Africa's independent Institute of Race Relations said Friday night that about two-thirds of the 104 deaths it has recorded in township violence so far this year could be attributed to police action.

An inquiry is taking place in Uitenhage, on the eastern Cape, into the shooting on March 21 of at least 19 black people at the nearby black township of Langa.

## 10 die as 2 Canadian planes crash

EDMONTON, Alberta (AP) — Ten crewmen died when two transport planes flying in low formation touched wings and crashed in flames during a Royal Canadian Air Force anniversary celebration.

Col. Peter Detracey, commander of Canadian Forces Base Namao, told a news conference there were no known survivors from the crash on the outskirts of Edmonton.

The two Hercules C-130 cargo planes were among three planes from the base flying at an altitude of about 500 metres Friday evening before crashing into a giant fireball. The formation was part of a 61st anniversary celebration for the Canadian Air Force.

Col. Detracey said one of the dead was a U.S. Air Force ex-

change pilot, the others were Canadian. He described the airmen as "very experienced."

Witnesses said the two planes touched wings and plunged into a warehouse near a fuel dump in the centre of the air base, sparking a fire that could be seen over a wide area.

"Fortunately, the wind blew the flames away from the fuel storage area," Col. Detracey said. He said the weather was clear at the time of the crash.

The fire was reported under control late Friday. No base personnel were evacuated, but the air base was closed for the crash and fire.

One witness said he saw a parachute floating to earth after the crash.

Frank Boogman, one of the witnesses, said he and his family were eating dinner at their home near the base when they saw three of the aircraft flying in formation.

He said he saw two planes drop suddenly, followed by a huge fireball. Flames and smoke were visible for a long time after the crash, he said.

New versions of the turboprop C-130s can carry 128 troops or 12,080 kilogramme of cargo, according to Jane's all the world's air craft.

The crash was the second tragedy at the base in less than three years. In November 1982, seven men, including an American exchange officer, died when a Hercules C-130 crashed during a training mission.

## Security improves in northeast India

NEW DELHI (R) — India said Saturday security had improved over the past year in most northeastern border areas, but a separatist guerrilla struggle intensified and claimed 64 lives in Tripura state.

The Home (interior) Ministry said in its annual review that the Tripura National Volunteers guerrilla force had stepped up its campaign, "resulting in 73 violent incidents" during the year ending Sunday.

Patrolling to prevent infiltration into Assam, where 3,000 people were killed in 1983 in violent clashes between settlers and militant Assamese, was intensified during the year and the report said the process of normalisation had quickened in the state.

In Manipur and Nagaland, security operations resulted in the arrest of 177 extremists and the surrender of 63, it said.

It said that after talks with Mr. Laleng, leader of the Mizo National Front (MNF), the front had agreed to a ceasefire and would seek a political settlement within the Indian constitution to the problem of Mizoram.

Indian security forces have been waging a counter-insurgency campaign against various secessionist groups in the north-east, bordering China, Burma, and Bangladesh, for more than 20 years.

The report said the paramilitary border security force rounded up 19,539 people attempting to enter India illegally and 3,330 others engaged in smuggling goods worth 81.2 million rupees (\$6.8 million).

Home Affairs Minister S.B. Chavan told parliament on Thursday India would build a 3,200-kilometre barbed wire fence along the border with Bangladesh to stop infiltration.

The report said work on the fence stopped in April 1984 after an Indian labourer was killed in shooting between Indian and Bangladeshi soldiers and resumption was being considered.

Bangladesh denies its nationals have been crossing illegally into India.

San Salvador (R) — President Jose Napoleon Duarte has promised to continue peace talks with leftist guerrillas after elections on Sunday.

The moderate Christian Democrat president told a news conference his government would go ahead even if the right, which opposes the talks, retained its National Assembly majority by winning the contest for 60 deputies.

"The results of the elections do not matter, the government will continue to seek peace," he said. "We are going to continue the dialogue."

Last year, the government had guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) held two rounds of talks aimed at ending El Salvador's five-year-old civil war.

Mr. Duarte did not give a date

## 26 die in Filipino army, rebel clash

GENERAL SANTOS, Philippines (R) — At least 26 people were killed and 10 wounded in separate skirmishes between government troops and Communist guerrillas in the southern Philippines, the military said Saturday.

Army field commander Col. Emilio Forth said about 500 villagers had fled after a two-hour

dash in which 18 rebels, three soldiers and three militiamen were killed in Lutay, Malungon town in south Cotabato province on Wednesday. Two civilians were wounded.

Two soldiers were killed and eight wounded in Surigao Del Sur province, about 240 kilometres south west of South Cotabato,

when Communist guerrillas ambushed them in Cortez town on Thursday, a military spokesman said.

Three suspected members of a Communist liquidation squad were killed Saturday in a police raid on their hideout in Davao city. Police Commander Col. Laudemer Kahulugan said.

## Bangladesh cyclone claims 70 lives

DHAKA (R) — A cyclone which swept through villages in Bangladesh's northern Pabna district on Thursday night killed about 70 people and injured nearly 1,000, local officials said Saturday.

One official said most of the victims were killed by hailstones in the three worst hit villages on the banks of the River Padma.

"We fear a few more injured may be found in the debris of collapsed houses," additional Deputy Commissioner Atiqur Rahman told Reuters by telephone.

The search for victims is continuing but officials do not think the death toll from the half-hour storm will go much higher.

Local officials and Red Cross relief teams were working round the clock while army helicopters were airlifting medicine and relief supplies to the disaster areas.

At least 10 people were killed and 200 injured as the storm lashed other parts of the country on Wednesday and Thursday.

Pabna Hospital and other small clinics were filled with injured people, mostly women and children, local reporters said. Volunteers have joined hospital staff to speed treatment of the casualties, they said.

About 3,000 people were left homeless by the storm, which

raged at a speed of 150 kilometres an hour and lasted nearly 30 minutes, residents said.

They said several cattle were killed, fruit gardens and plantations destroyed and road communication to the area cut off by uprooted trees.

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad visited the affected villages and ordered construction of temporary houses to shelter the victims.

Dhaka newspapers said Saturday seven people died and several were hurt by a storm in north-western Kushtia district Friday.

## China ticks off government workers

PEKING (R) — China's top official newspaper Saturday told government and Communist Party workers to stop complaining about earning less than peasants and workers who are benefitting from the nation's economic reforms.

"Party and government workers have the highest political consciousness in the country, their work is not meant to enrich them but to serve the rest of the people," the People's Daily said in a front page reprimand.

There is a growing problem of corruption as some state and party employees try to boost their fixed salaries, which are falling behind those of industrial and farm workers allowed big profit incentives by the reforms.

"Although officials are, generally speaking, not too rich, their

standard of living is guaranteed and still higher than that of the majority of peasants," the People's Daily said.

Government fears that resentment could be at boiling point in some public sectors were reflected in this week's economic work report and budget speeches by Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang and Finance Minister Wang Bingjian.

The two leaders, concerned at an overheated economy and threatened inflation, slapped a moratorium on over-rapid wage increases in the economy as a whole but made an exception of the public sector.

The government has already allocated two billion yuan (\$700 million) to help raise the salaries of teachers, who are a particularly

under-privileged sector.

Average per capita peasant income is only about 30 yuan (\$10) a month but there are reports of "millionaire" farmers earning 10,000 yuan (\$3,500) a year.

One well-educated Chinese attached to a foreign firm told Reuters with some feeling he had been helping interpret conversations with farmers near Peking who were earning 10 times his own 70 yuan (\$25) a month wage.

The People's Daily said: "Below will be rich before above, the masses will be prosperous before the officials."

The government has threatened severe penalties against any of the millions of state and party officials who use their positions to indulge in illegal business, bribery or expensive living at the state's expense.

## Bomb blast injures 18 in Paris cinema auditorium

PARIS (R) — Eighteen people were hurt, three of them seriously, when a bomb exploded Friday night in a cinema showing a festival of Jewish films in central Paris, firemen said.

Police said earlier that about 20 people had been hurt in the explosion. Eyewitnesses said the bomb had been hidden under a row of seats in the back of the auditorium.

Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, who rushed to the Rivoli Beaubourg Cinema from the nearby town hall, was quoted on television as calling the blast "a blind, racist attack."

Firemen rushed to the scene and quickly put out a fire which had forced the terrified audience of about 50 out of the theatre.

Interior Minister Pierre Joxe,

who also visited the scene, was quoted on television as saying that the cinema, close to the Jewish quarter known as Le Marais, was under close police watch.

He said a police patrol passed near the cinema minutes before the bomb went off at 9.30 p.m. (2040 GMT) without noticing anything unusual.

Eyewitnesses said the toll could have been much higher as the audience, watching a film about Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann, had been unusually small.

They said the bomb made a crater half a metre deep when it went off. A side door of the cinema was blown five metres into the street and windows were shattered.

No one has yet claimed responsibility for the blast.

## Honduran supreme court president arrested

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Honduran security forces have detained the new president of the supreme court in the first direct intervention by the armed forces in the country's constitutional crisis.

Ramon Valladares Soto was seized by the national police special investigative unit Friday night shortly after being sworn in, according to Gustavo Acosta Mejia, president of the Human Rights Commission of the Lawyers' College of Honduras.

Eight other justices were also ordered arrested, he told reporters. Mr. Valladares' arrest was confirmed by his wife, Eva.

Congress sacked five judges, including the president of the supreme court, last Thursday, accusing them of bending electoral rules to favour President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

On Friday they appointed replacements in what the president called a technical coup.

Some 40 troops armed with automatic weapons were continuing to block access to the supreme court while another 30 were outside congress, as rumours of an imminent coup continued to circulate.

The armed forces themselves had earlier made it clear they wanted to stay out of the political squabble between Mr. Suazo and congress, military sources said.

Friday night's arrests showed Mr. Suazo had persuaded some officers to become involved, the sources said.

Honduran Congress President Efraim Bu Giron said the detention was an unconstitutional act that violated Mr. Valladares' immunity as a public official.

Government officials also confirmed that the governors of three provinces, including that covering the capital, had been sacked for their support of Mr. Bu Giron who broke with Mr. Suazo over a dispute over Mr. Bu Giron's intended candidacy for president.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### THE HIDDEN UNBLOCK

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH  
♠ 10 7 6  
♥ J 7 6 4  
♦ A Q J  
♣ A 9 5

WEST  
♠ 9 8 4 2  
♥ 5  
♦ Q 8 3  
♣ 4

EAST  
♠ 5  
♥ K 10 9 5 2  
♦ K 5 3 2  
♣ K J

SOUTH  
♠ A K Q J 3  
♥ A  
♦ 10 9 7 6  
♣ 7 6 2

The bidding:  
East South West North  
1♣ 1♠ 2♣ 3♠  
Pass 4♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣.

An annual visitor to these shores is Mario Hoffman of London, whose new book, "More Tales of Hoffman," affords many hours of pleasure. We are indebted to him for this hand, which he has used to stump many an expert.

East-West took advantage of the vulnerability to try to talk North-South out of their game. However, South had a very fine overall, and he did not need much encouragement from his partner to go on to game.

sailing. The heart lead was unfortunate for declarer, for it knocked out an entry and a key stopper at the first trick. Can you see how declarer can guarantee his contract even with the 4-1 trump break?

Don't feel bad if you didn't find the winning line — you are in some of the best company in the world. Declarer must draw four rounds of trumps, and he must discard a heart from dummy! Now declarer continues with the ace-queen of diamonds.

If East holds up the king of diamonds, declarer simply continues with the jack of diamonds and he has 10 tricks. So East wins the king of diamonds and leads a heart. If declarer ruffs, he will make only nine tricks because he will be locked out the table after cashing the jack of diamonds. Therefore, he must discard a club from hand. West wins the queen of hearts and continues the suit. Declarer again sluffs a club.

Now when East leads a fourth heart, declarer ruffs and jets a dummy's jack of diamonds! His 10-9 of diamonds and dummy's ace of clubs take the last three tricks.

Note that declarer cannot unblock a diamond honor on the fourth trump — East can counter by holding up the king of diamonds. And if declarer does not discard a heart, he won't be able to unblock the diamond honor on the fourth round of hearts.

## COLUMN

### Erotic dancing banned on Bali

JAKARTA (R) — The regional government on the Indonesian holiday island of Bali has banned erotic dancing by scantily-clad women in public, the official Antara News Agency said. The ban was imposed as part of the government's efforts to prevent tourist entertainment having a negative impact on the traditional life of the Balinese. Antara quoted a spokesman as saying, "Two dancers had already been warned, one for wearing an erotic mini costume and the other for momentarily removing her clothes during a performance, to be added."

### Man in queue dies of exhaustion

NEW DELHI (R) — A 21-year-old man died of exhaustion in the South Indian city of Madras Saturday after a night spent standing in a queue, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. The news agency quoted city police chief S. Sripathi as saying the unidentified man was among 12,000 who had lined up for recruitment as police constables. Sripathi said he fainted early Saturday and died in hospital of exhaustion.

### Reagan bursts blood vessel in left eye

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan has suffered a burst blood vessel in his left eye, causing it to fill partially with blood. The condition was apparent during Mr. Reagan's speech-making appearance Friday before the National Space Club. White House Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes said Mr. Reagan first noticed the condition when he awoke Thursday. Mr. Reagan's eye appeared to be bloodshot later that day during a trip to New York. By Friday, there was a bright redness from the corner of his eye to the eyeball. "There's no pain, it doesn't affect his vision and there's no treatment," said Mr. Speakes.

### Bishop says Christ's body could be stolen

DURHAM, England (AP) — The Anglican Bishop of Durham, the Rev. David Jenkins, who is noted for controversial views on the resurrection, says in Easter article that Christ's body may have been stolen from the tomb by disciples. Rev. Jenkins said it was also possible Christ's body was still in the tomb — contrary to the New Testament teaching that he rose from the dead. "The evidence of the texts... and the general facts about the way people all over the world rapidly believe appropriate stories to support their religious beliefs leave me wholly uncertain about the empty tomb as literal historic fact," said Rev. Jenkins. Rev. Jenkins, 60, the fourth-ranking bishop in the Anglican Church of England, was writing in an article titled "Meaning Of Easter in the newsletter of his northern England diocese."

### Woman asks forgiveness for jailing innocent man

NEW YORK (R) — A young woman whose false claim that she was raped sent an innocent man to jail for six years was granted forgiveness by the man's mother, a scene watched by millions on national television. As tears streamed down her face, Cathleen Crowell, 23, asked for forgiveness on NBC's Today Show and was granted it immediately by the mother of Gary Dotson, the Chicago man she sent to prison. "I am so sorry for what I did to you and your family and especially to Gary," she told Dotson's mother Barbara in a conversation arranged through television studio bookers in Chicago and New York. The response from Mrs. Dotson was instant: "You are forgiven. I just want my son back and I thank you so much for coming forward. It took a lot of courage." Crowell, who decided to tell the truth two months ago because she said she could no longer live with her lie, said that when she was 16 years old she had sexual intercourse and feared she was pregnant. She said she was afraid she would be thrown out of the children's home she was living in and invented the rape story to protect herself. She said police made her go through books of photographs and she arbitrarily picked out Dotson, now 26 years old. "I panicked... and you do not act responsibly when you are panicking," she said.